

F. G. L.

THE TRUE *8th*  
ACCOUNT  
OF ALL THE  
TRANSACTIONS  
BEFORE THE  
Right Honourable the LORDS,  
And Others the COMMISSIONERS  
for the Affairs of *Chelsea* Hospital;  
As far as relates to the  
ADMISSION and DISMISSION  
OF  
*SAMUEL, LEE, Surgeon.*

To which is prefixed,  
A Short ACCOUNT OF the NATURE  
of a RUPTURE.

By *JOHN RANBY and CESAR HAWKINS,*  
Serjeant-Surgeons to His MAJESTY.

L O N D O N.

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## THE TRUE ACCOUNT; &c.

WHEN Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* were first desired by the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners and others, for the Management of the Affairs of *Chester* Hospital, to make Enquiries into the Validity of the Cures, which Mr *Lee*, a Surgeon, asserted he had made of several of their old Pensioners, who had been afflicted with Ruptures; it was in Consequence of a Dispute between Mr *Chefelen*, their Surgeon, and Mr *Lee*, concerning the Evidence offered by Mr *Lee* to Mr *Chefelen* of those Cures: Which Evidence Mr *Chefelen* declared was insufficient, and such as he, as a Surgeon, could not accept of, without betraying his Trust to the Board.

Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* agreed herein with Mr *Chefelen*, and after such Enquiries as they thought proper, gave in Writing their Opinion, that, as far as appeared before them, Mr *Lee* was not able to do more in those Cases than other Surgeons; and they verbally declared at the same Time to the Commissioners, that they joined with Mr *Chefelen* in his Suspicions, that the Declarations and Affidavits of the Pensioners, that they

*had left off their Trusses, and were perfectly cured,* were not to be relied upon; and withdrew from any further Examination in the Affair: Mr Lee pursuing them for these their Opinions in Memorials, Affidavits, &c. with numberless Invectives and Reproaches.

Soon afterwards, upon Mr Ranby's being appointed Surgeon to the Hospital, he fully detected and laid open before the Commissioners the Iniquity of the old Men, in their false Declarations and Affidavits.

These Accounts Mr Lee did not attempt to disprove to the Commissioners, but carried an Action against Mr Ranby into Westminster-Hall, for general Words of Defamation; and in particular for asserting, that *the Pensioners were not cured*: Two of whom were brought there, and swore they were cured by Mr Lee. Yet, within a Month after this Tryal, these two Men (amongst others) were examined by the Right Honourable the Commissioners themselves, when they were both found with their Trusses on; which being removed, their Ruptures appeared: And the Men acknowledged to *them*, that *they had their Trusses on at the very Time they made Oath in Westminster-Hall, that they were cured*.

Mr Lee, soon after, was dismissed from all further Attendance upon the Pensioners, not without some Animadversions from the Right Honourable the Commissioners upon his Conduct.

This Dismissal produced a Pamphlet, intitled, *A Narrative of some Proceedings in the Management of Chelsea Hospital, as far as relates to the Appointment and Dismissal of Samuel Lee, Surgeon;* which was sent to many Persons of the first Distinction, as well as dispersed amongst many others; and was, from the Beginning to the End, full

full of false Facts, Abuse, and Misrepresentations of the Conduct and Behaviour of Mr *Cheselden*, Mr *Ranby*, and Mr *Hawkins*, with Regard to Mr *Lee*; and accused the Right Honourable the Commissioners, as having hardly and unjustly dismissed him from the Hospital, with Declarations still, that the old Men were cured. Mr *Ranby*, to do all in his Power, in order to fix and clear this material Point, begged the Favour of several of the principal Surgeons of *London*, to assist at a Re-examination of all those In-Pensioners who were declared to have been cured by Mr *Lee*; and accordingly on 13 July, 1753, eleven of these Men were so examined; when every Man was found to have a Truss on, and the Ruptures of ten of them immediately appeared.

With Regard to all the abusive Freedoms taken with their own private Characters, in the above-mentioned Pamphlet, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* long hesitated, whether they ought, or indeed whether it was worth their while to take any public Notice of them, or not. They were in Hopes their Characters and Behaviour, in the many Families which they have had the Honour and good Fortune to be employed in, would gradually wear away any Suspicion that might have been raised, that they could be mean enough to use Art and Authority to depreciate, cry down, and quash the new and valuable Discoveries of any young Man in the Profession, which it would have better become them to encourage and support.

They were conscious to themselves of their being above such low and dishonest Artifices, and were inclinable to leave the whole to Time, which generally does Justice to the Characters of Men.

But some of their Friends, and particularly of their own Profession, continued to press them for

a public Account of Mr *Lee's* Behaviour, and their own Conduct in this Dispute ; and assured them, that many People were drawing Inferences from the Narrative's not being answered at all, that the Facts contained in it were true. Besides, they had frequently remarked, in the many Conversations they had occasionally held upon the Subject, how very little the true Nature of this common Disease was known, how greatly it had been in general misrepresented, as to its Danger, its Irksomeness, and the Impossibility of its being cured in the common Way of treating it ; nay, how avowedly incurable it was imagined to be allowed by the *English* Surgeons.

In such Conversations Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* found very few who were not surprised, when they assured them, that the very contrary was true in every Circumstance ; that in a common Rupture, the Use of a proper Bandage, which in itself is little or no Inconvenience, when it is made to fit well, procures immediate Relief to the afflicted Person, from Pain and every other grievous Symptom of the Disorder ; in a very little Time enables him to go on with his Business, though a laborious one ; and by a still longer Perseverance, sometimes sooner, sometimes later, often works a compleat Cure, so that the Bandage may be entirely laid aside : The Person having gradually recovered the natural Strength of his Fibres, which in Health so perfectly prevents the Complaint. That every Surgeon knew this to be an effectual Way of treating the Disorder, and that most Surgeons could produce many Instances of ruptured People, within their own Knowledge, who had long left off their Bandages they were at first obliged to wear, and continued ever after perfectly well ; nay farther, that

that in their Opinion, whenever a real Cure has been performed by those who pretend to some *particular Secret*, it was the Bandage, which they never fail to call into their Assistance, that in Reality effected the Cure ; though the Merit of it was always artfully attributed to some internal Medicine or outward Application ; which requires their *frequent Attendance*, and must be administered by *their own Hands*.

From these Considerations, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* were induced to give a fair and impartial Account of their Proceedings ; which they would willingly endeavour at the same Time to make of some general Service to the Public, by turning the present Curiosity to the particular Advantage of every one, who is interested enough to make a serious Enquiry into the Nature of this Disorder.

Their Design, therefore, is to lay before the Public, a plain and short State of the Nature of a common Rupture, as free from Terms of Art as possible, and not designed for Surgeons, (who they make no Doubt are as much Masters of the Subject as they are themselves) but only to enable any attentive Persons to get rid of their Prejudices, their Fears, and perhaps their false Shame ; and to judge for themselves, how they are to act in applying for, and procuring Relief in this Disease, as justly as they can in any other, which is more generally and better understood.

This Description of the Disease is likewise intended to assist the Reader, who is unacquainted with the Subject, the better to understand the History following it, which contains all the material Transactions, Disputes, &c. between the other Surgeons and Mr *Lee*.

*Ranby*;

Lastly, with the Authority of the Right Hon. the Commissioners, they have added all the Minutes of the Board relating to Mr Lee, from his Admission to his final Dismission, including a Narrative, Certificates, and Examinations, as delivered to them by Mr Fury, the Secretary to the Hospital.

The common Rupture, which is the Subject of this Enquiry, is an external Swelling at the Bottom of the Belly, easily to be felt and seen; and is occasioned by the Gut or Caul, or both, forcing their Way out of their proper Situation within the Cavity of the Belly, through Openings, naturally designed to give Passage to particular Vessels only.

These Openings are so tight and small in the right and natural State of the Body, as not to permit the Gut or Caul to pass along with these Vessels; and it is only from some accidental and preternatural dilating of them, that the Rupture proceeds.

At its Beginning this Swelling is generally very easily to be distinguished from all others, and chiefly by this peculiar Circumstance, that at any Time the whole Swelling can be entirely and instantaneously removed by a very small artificial Pressure upon it with the Fingers; this is done by pushing back the Gut or Caul into the Cavity of the Belly. When it is thus put back, or when it retires of itself, as it commonly does, on the Persons lying down any Time, no Swelling at all, nor so much as any Trace of it, is to be seen, by which any one can know there had been such a Swelling on the Part, or that it would return on change of Posture, or Straining of the Body.

In this State of a Rupture, the Skin which covers it, is neither inflamed, nor at all discoloured.

This

This Complaint is extremely common in Infancy, but is scarce to be reckoned a Distemper, it is so easily cured by Bandage. This peculiar Bandage, however it may be diversified in its Make or Fashion, serving to keep the Gut or Caul from pressing out of the Cavity of the Belly, is called a *Truss*.

After two or three Years of Age, the Rupture rarely happens, but from some forcible Accident, or extraordinary straining of the Body; for as Children grow older, and their Fibres become stronger, those Openings are more difficultly dilated, and consequently they are less subject to this Disorder.

In such Cases, and in all indeed, almost without Exception in a growing Age, the Bandage well fitted, and constantly worn for a proper length of Time, proves a certain and absolute Cure.

In grown up Persons, who are in the Vigorous and Prime of their Life, the Rupture scarce ever has its Beginning, but from the Violence of some very extraordinary Accident; and even in these, provided the Truss is early and well fitted, and the Cure is favoured by Rest, and all laborious Exercise is avoided for a length of Time, the dilated Opening is often compleatly strengthened again, and the *Rupture cured*.

Lastly, Old Men are frequently subject to this Disorder, and the Rupture is often occasioned by very slight, and very inconsiderable Accidents, from meer Weakness of the Parts, and the general Relaxation of the Fibres, the natural Consequences of Decay; yet even in these Cases, the constant wearing of a good Truss, frees the ruptured Person from Pain, and all Kind of Danger, and most commonly renders the Disorder a slight Inconvenience

science only, and not an Obſtacle to any of the Offices of Life, and ſometimes perfectly cures.

With reſpect to an absolute and compleat Cure in these Disorders, the Diſference between those in the firſt, and in the latter Stage of Life, muſt be extremely obvious.

Children are liable to this Diſorder, from the Softneſs and over-yielding of the Parts, before their Fibres have acquired their due Strength and Firmneſs; and these (provided the Rupture is conſtantly kept up by a proper Truſſ) Time will of course recover, as it naturally brings with it that Strength and Firmneſs which was wanted.

Whilſt in aged Persons, whatever their Ruptures are, whether reſent or of long Standing, Time can only add to their Infirmitiess; and an universal and certain Cure is perhaps as little to be expeſted, as an universal Remedy to restore, throughout their whole Fabrick, the Force and Vigour of their Youth.

It ſometimes happens that the Gut and Caul, from a long Neglect of returning them into the Belly, adhere, and grow to the Parts ſurrounding them: This Adheſion of course ever afterwards prevents the Return of the Rupture into the Belly, which thus becomes an incurable Caſe.

A gain, if through Neglect of wearing the Truſſ, or ſome caſual very extraordinary Strain, the Inteſtine in a ruptured Person comes down with more Violence, and in greater Quantity than uſual, a dangerous Inflammation ſometimes ſucceeds, which without early and proper Assistance ends in a Mortification.

This Diſference in the Nature of Ruptures, *the greatest Part of which are eaſily and ſurely cured by Bandage*, whilſt ſome few others again are abſolutely incurable, and even ſometimes dangerous, has

has given Opportunity to Persons, who are regardful of their own Interest only, of imposing on the credulous and timorous. To effect which, in the first Place, they confound together the Ruptures of People of different Ages, and those of easy Cure, with the Incurable, and speak alike of them in general, as if they were all equally grievous, incurable, and dangerous Disorders; and in the next Place, whilst they apply a Bandage or Truss, and perform their Cures by it, they make a Parade and Use of some *secret* Remedy, which is of no real Service, but to which they pretend to ascribe the Merit of the Cure; thus cunningly enhancing their own Credit, and exacting thereby extraordinary Pay.

These Impositions almost all our Authors take Notice of, as the delusive Practice of their Times, and, in our own, almost every Day's News-Paper produces some Advertisement or other to the same Purpose; some pretending to cure by internal Remedies, and others by external Applications.

The common Name of this Disorder, *a Rupture*, would naturally lead to a false Idea of it, as it implies a Laceration or Tearing; whereas it is really owing to a preternatural Dilatation only of the Opening above-mentioned, and therefore is not to be cured as a Wound or Breach of the Parts by Medicine, but is then recovered, when the Fibres, which compose the Openings, have regained their due natural Strength and Contractions. How little any internal Remedies which must first mix with, and circulate through the whole Mass of Blood, can contribute to the strengthening a particular Part thus distended and dilated, may be easily guessed.

It is true, as far as they strengthen the whole Body, they help such a partial Weakness, but no

farther. And as to external Applications, they cannot enter so deep as to those Openings, with any Degree of Power, or contracting Force.

So that no one will imagine that any such Applications could be endued with a Power of contracting that one particular Set of Fibres of the Body only; for if it could be serviceable there, it would be certainly equally able to exert its Force in the Cure of every strained or weakened Part, which has never yet been pretended to.

The best Surgeons have found by Experience, that the strongest and most powerful external Applications are of trifling Effect in this Disorder, and unable to penetrate deep enough even to assist or shorten the Cure.

All Medicines, internal or external, are for these Reasons rejected from the best regular Practice; proper Rest, the Truss well fitted, being proved to be sufficient to effect every possible Cure.

There is not perhaps any one Disorder of the Human Body, which has been more fully considered, or more faithfully and judiciously treated, by all Authors writing on Surgery, both antient and modern; numberless Remedies have been tried and discarded, various Operations have been invented and laid aside, and the boldest Experiments made, both by the Knife and Caustic, but without Success.

No longer ago than in the Beginning of his late Majesty's Reign, a new Method was proposed (at that Time a Secret) and recommended with very great Encomiums to the King, as worthy of his Royal Encouragement.

It was to make a large deep Wound by the Application of Caustics, which should take in and destroy all the Parts which cover the Openings through which the Ruptures descend, upon a Presumption

umption that, after the healing up again of those Wounds, the great Scar or Cicatrice remaining would have bound so tight upon those Openings, as to have prevented any future Descent of the Ruptures.

The Method proved upon Trial ineffectual; but whoever has seen and taken Notice of the great Hardness and Contraction, which remains upon the healing up of a large Wound or Burn, will readily comprehend what Alteration of those Parts was produced by this Experiment; much greater indeed than any Alteration which can ever, in the Nature of Things, be effected by Applications to the Skin only, without destroying it.

In all those Cases, where the Experiments were made under the Royal Sanction, after the Wounds were first healed, the Ruptures did not come down for some Time; and upon this deceitful Appearance, the Gentlemen who were appointed to examine those Cases, reported that the Patients appeared to be cured; whereupon a very large and princely Reward was given by his Majesty to the Operator, *viz.* the Sum of 5000*l.* and 500*l.* a Year Annuity; and the Honour of Knighthood; but, in the Course of a few Months, all their Ruptures returned, none of those Persons proved to be cured, and the Method was publickly decryed, not without some Reproach to the Gentlemen who had inadvertently made an over-hasty Report.

Yet in those Cases, after the Persons were once declared to be cured, frequent and fair Examinations were submitted to; all the Bandages were known to have been left off, and no Collusion or Deceit was suspected in the Persons upon whom the Trials were made. Now, if we compare that memorable History with the present Case, we shall see that there was not in this, even the same Pre-

tence for reporting the old Pensioners cured; for when these were declared to be cured, frequent and fair Examinations were denied, the Bandages were not known to be left off, and a fraudulent Combination amongst the old Pensioners was extremely suspected.

The Proof of Cure was to rest wholly on their *Declarations* and *Affidavits*, and upon such an Inspection and Examination, as, at the most, could only produce a Declaration that their Ruptures were not down at that Time; and how short this Appearance upon any one, or a few Examinations must be from a real Proof of Cure, need not be observed to any the least versed in Surgery, or to those who have been troubled with Ruptures themselves; and yet this was the long Point of Debate between Mr *Cheselden* and Mr *Lee*, *Whether a ruptured Person, appearing at an Examination, without visible Marks of a Rupture, was Proof of a Cure.*

When Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* were first present with Mr *Cheselden*, at an Examination of the ruptured Men at *Chelsea*, Mr *Lee* vehemently and strongly pressed them to give him a Certificate of the Cure of those Men who had no Appearance of Ruptures at that Time, and complained of their Refusal to comply with his Demand, as a great Hardship, though those Men were, before that Day, entirely unknown to them.

At every Board, and at every private Meeting, in all his Memorials, and in all the *Affidavits*, Mr *Lee* was misleading every one to judge from their Ruptures not being down, at any single Examination, that the Men were cured; and, indeed, by the whole Tenour of his Behaviour and Talk, in public as well as private, any one would have thought, that Men appearing thus without their

Ruptures

Ruptures down, and their being perfectly cured, was one and the same Thing. It is scarcely to be conceived what Obloquy, Abuse, and Trouble the Surgeons, appointed to make the Examinations, met with from Mr Lee, for refusing to admit this fallacious and trifling Evidence. Were it true that a Rupture's not coming down soon after taking off the Truss was Proof of a compleat Cure, how easy would it be for Surgeons to decide the precise Time, when those who have been troubled with Ruptures might deem themselves cured, and safely lay aside the Use of their Bandages. Surgeons are often consulted upon this very Question, and well know they cannot be determined by any Appearance or Examination of the Parts, but that they must be guided in their Opinions, by their general Rules from Experience, and the Circumstance and History of each particular Case. For Example, suppose a grown up Person, who had been troubled with a Rupture, had never once found any Uneasiness, Pressure, or Symptom of his Rupture, during the last Months he wore his Truss, and should therefore lay it aside, and, after a Week or Fortnight's continuing well, conclude himself compleatly cured, without any Danger of a future Relapse; every experienced Surgeon would tell him his Conclusion was premature, that two or three Months at least were necessary, in which Time he ought to make various Trials with different Kinds and Degrees of Exercise, before he could, upon any just Foundation, conclude that his Cure was really compleat and perfect. If this is rightly explained, what must be thought of the Inspection of an Hour, or what even of several such repeated Inspections at fixed Times; if the Persons, thus to be examined, had it in their Power to prepare themselves accordingly, live quietly, without

without Exercise or Repletion, and wear their Trusses in the intermediate Times of the Examinations?

To illustrate this Conduct of Mr *Lee's*, with respect to the Examination, by a more familiar and known Distemper. Suppose a Person, pretending by an unknown Remedy to an infallible Cure of an Ague, had been permitted to make an Experiment upon one of the Pensioners, and the proper Proofs of the Cure referred to their Physician. If, after a few Days, the Physician had been desired to inspect the Patient, and, upon his appearing well, had been requested to give a Certificate that he was cured; would he not have naturally answered? "The Man does appear well To-day, but, for aught I know to the contrary, he may have had his Ague-Fit Yesterday, and may again have a Return of it To-morrow. I live under the same Roof with him, you say he is cured, I will visit him at the Times I think proper, and if I find him continue well, I will be very ready to make any Report in your Favour."

Would this Answer have been thought wrong, or how would it have sounded, if the Person, who pretended to cure the Ague, had declared, "the Physician should have no such Permission to visit his Patient, that the present Inspection was sufficient; but that if he wanted more Evidence, the Man himself was before him ready to declare he was cured, and that he had even an Affidavit in his Pocket, which the Man had made before a Justice of the Peace to prove it." Such exactly was the Nature of the Proofs which Mr *Lee* always offered to Mr *Cheselden*, Mr *Ranby*, and Mr *Hawkins*.

Mr

Mr Lee's first Application to the Commissioners appears by the Minutes on their Books, to be on 31 Jan. 1749-50, and in the following Manner.

The Paymaster-General communicated the following Letter to the Board, which he had received from Samuel Lee, Surgeon, including several Certificates of his Success in curing Ruptures.

To the Honourable William Pitt, Esq;

SIR,

As you was so kind to promise Sir William Yonge, that you would acquaint your Honourable Board with my Success in curing Hernia's (Ruptures).—I have, according to your Directions, inclosed four Certificates, which I hope you will be so good as to lay before them: And as there is a Vacancy for a Surgeon for that Complaint alone in that Hospital, hope they will think it worthy Consideration, and am, praying your further Assistance herein,

Your Honour's

Most obedient and obliged Servant,  
Arundel-Street,  
29 Jan. 1749. Samuel Lee.

There are but two of these Certificates now remaining in the Hands of Mr Fury, Secretary to the Hospital. They are as follows:

This is to certify, that I Robert Pitt, Coachman to Sir William Yonge, being troubled with a Rupture, did in Dec. 1747, apply to Mr Ranby, Serjeant-Surgeon, for the same, who told me I was *incurable*,

incurable, but that I might possibly find some Benefit from a Truss, which by his Direction I got; but notwithstanding that, my Rupture afterwards came down very often, and was at last so troublesome, that I was obliged to leave off my Truss, and continued without it until Nov. 1749, when the Rupture was as large as ever: And I, by Sir William Yonge's Direction, then applied to Mr Samuel Lee, of Arundel-Street, by whom I was in three Weeks cured; and have continued quite well in that Respect ever since, though have continually drove the Coach, and had a violent Cough. In witness whereof, and that I now find myself quite well, I have set my Hand this 28th of January, 1749.

Robert Pitt.

This is to certify, that I John Sackville, aged 60, have been troubled with a Hernia (Rupture) for thirty Years last past, which for about three Years has been so bad, that I could not walk five Yards without the most exquisite Pain.

In September last, I was examined by Mr Ranby, Serjeant-Surgeon, who then told Mr Lee, if he could cure me, that he should then be convinced that he was able to relieve that Complaint, which he thought was by all deemed incurable. In witness whereof, and that I was compleatly cured by the said Mr Lee, of Arundel-Street, and afterwards examined again by the said Mr Ranby, who confessed the said Cure was compleated, and that I have not since had the least Symptom thereof, I have set my Hand, this 5th Day of December, 1749.

John Sackville.  
These

These extraordinary Certificates we have inserted at Length, as they oblige us to stop the Reader at the very Entrance into this Account, and beg his Attention to a few Remarks upon them.

First, Mr *Ranby* declares, that he never knew, nor so much as suspected, that his Name had ever been mentioned, on any Occasion whatever, at the *Chelsea* Board, 'till Mr *Chefelen* had desired that he and Mr *Hawkins* might assist in examining Mr *Lee*'s Patients; that it was not 'till on the Intention of this Publication when all the original Papers were delivered to him, that he found these Certificates, and discovered how free an Use had been made of his Name without his Knowledge even at Mr *Lee*'s very first Application to the Board; and that had he known it at the Time, he should undoubtedly have taken the very first Opportunity of waiting upon the Commissioners, and informing them how very unfairly his Opinion on Ruptures had been misrepresented to them in those Certificates, and in particular how absolutely false and groundless *Sackville*'s Assertion was, *that he had confess'd to Mr Lee, that Sackville's Cure was complete.*

Secondly, *Pitt*, Sir *William Yonge*'s Coachman, says, that so long ago as in the Year 1747, he went to Mr *Ranby* for his Advice, as a ruptured Man.

This may possibly be true, many Servants applying to him on the like Occasion, whom he usually advises to get a good Truss; and, when they have got one, if it should not sit easy, or if it did not prevent the Rupture from coming down, to come to him again, and he would tell them what to do.

This was most likely his Direction to this Man, as it is the only Method he ever puts any of his

Patients in, whether rich or poor, who are afflicted in the same Manner. But he is very sure he did not say, *that he was incurable.*

If, as it follows in his Certificate, " notwithstanding the Truss, the Rupture afterwards came down very often, and was at last so troublesome as to oblige him to leave it off," Mr Ranby's Advice was improperly pursued, and his Directions ill executed. The Truss, Pitt had procured, was ill made, or at least wanted some Alteration, either in the Make or Application; for, in a common Rupture, a good Truss, well fitted, would never have been troublesome, nor have permitted the Rupture to come down; and the Use of it would undoubtedly have enabled him to perform with Ease, all the Labour and Duty of his Place.

This is the particular Case, which all Pretenders to cure by *Remedies* rejoice in and avail themselves of, whenever it falls into their Hands. The Truss, which did not exactly fit, and might perhaps have been easily rectified, is thrown aside in Disgrace, and all Trusses are failed at in general; but, notwithstanding this, some other of a *different* Make is immediately applied in its Place, and proper Care is taken *that this shall fit well*; and the Benefit, accruing from this, is ascribed to some trifling Remedy which has been punctually administered during the Use of it.

Lastly, John Sackville's Certificate declares, that he was first examined by Mr Ranby, in September 1749, and again on the 5th of December following, at which Time Mr Ranby confess'd his Cure was compleated.

What Mr Ranby knows of this Affair he will lay before the Reader.—

About September 1749, Sir William Yonge had in Conversation assured Mr Ranby, that Mr Lee, a Surgeon of his Acquaintance, had invented a new Method of curing Ruptures; and observing Mr Ranby to seem diffident and incredulous, he added, that what Mr Lee asserted might be depended upon; and in order to convince him, gave him a Letter to read from one Mr Roebuck, who affirm'd in it, that *Mr Lee had cured him of a Rupture in a few Hours, without his wearing his Trus[s]e any longer than the following Night.* To this Mr Ranby made no other Reply, than that this might more properly be called a *Miracle* than a *Cure*. The same Account was given afterwards at the Chelsea Board by Mr Roebuck in Person.

Sir William Yonge then requested Mr Ranby to permit Mr Lee to shew him a Proof of his extraordinary Skill; and soon after Mr Lee brought a Man to Mr Ranby with a Rupture down, and in a few Weeks brought him again, when the Rupture was not down; or, in other Words, when there was no Appearance of a Swelling. Upon this Mr Lee immediately press'd Mr Ranby to give him a Certificate in his Favour, as he could not but see the Man was perfectly cured.

This Man thus brought by Mr Lee might be Sackville, for ought Mr Ranby knows or can recollect.

But Mr Ranby was so far from confessing the Cure compleat; (as declared in the Certificate) that he very strongly expressed his Surprize to Mr Lee at his asking for such a kind of Certificate, on so slight an Evidence as one single Examination could give him of the Validity of the Cure; adding, that he must be thoroughly satisfied by repeated Examinations, not only that one Man, but that *Numbers were perfectly cured*, before he would

ever give any general Certificate in favour of a new Method of treating this Disorder.

Upon the whole, it was impossible that Mr Ranby could, in Contradiction to his common Experience, and all Knowledge in his Business, tell Mr Lee at first, *that if he cured Sackville, he should then be convinced that Mr Lee was able to relieve that Complaint, which he thought was by all deemed incurable;* or, at his second coming to him, *confess the said Cure was compleated.*

What an extraordinary Attempt was this of Mr Lee's, to impose upon the Commissioners at his first Application to them? And how artfully is Sackville's Certificate drawn up, to establish the Truth of no less than three very *material* Facts to Mr Lee, by the Authority of Mr Ranby's Name.

*First,* That the common Rupture was *incurable*; by thus making Mr Ranby say, *He thought this Complaint was deem'd by all incurable.*

*Secondly,* That Mr Lee nevertheless could cure a Rupture. And,

*Thirdly,* That one single Examination (or Inspection rather) was sufficient to determine whether a complete Cure was perform'd, or no; by making Mr Ranby thus confess *this Man's Cure complete, upon one such single Examination.*

“ The Commissioners having that Day taken Mr Lee's Petition into their Consideration, came to the following Resolution. That Mr Lee should make Experiment upon such of their In-Pensioners as should voluntarily submit themselves to his Care.” And Orders were given, at his Request, that these Men should be entirely under his Direction and Management, and that no one whatever should visit them without his Consent, or interfere, in any Manner, during his Treatment of them: But, at the same Time they determined, that the Notification

fication of the Cures should finally be certified to them by their own Surgeons.

*Note.* There are three belonging to the Hospital, a Principal, and two Assistants.

The late Mr *Chefelden* was then their Principal Surgeon, and Mr *Thomas* and Mr *Reid*, now living at *Cheflea*, were his Assistants.

Thus did the Commissioners give Mr *Lee* all proper Advantage to complete the Cures he attempted, and reserve to themselves the Assistance of their own Surgeon, in forming their Judgment as to the Reality of the Cures, which might be reported to them.

We were assured by Mr *Chefelden*, that, immediately after this Permission was given to Mr *Lee*, he proposed the following Terms to him, for the Method of his future Examinations of his Patients, which Mr *Lee* agreed to, viz. 1<sup>st</sup>. That the Men, to be undertaken by Mr *Lee*, should be previously examined by Mr *Chefelden*, as to the Condition of their Ruptures. 2<sup>dly</sup>, That the Pensioners thus examined (if they were not known to him before) should be brought to him once or twice more, that he might be able to remember their Persons; he having remarked, that there was so great a Similitude in old Men, especially in uniform Cloathing, that, at a Distance of Time, he had frequently mistaken one Man for another. And, *Lastly*, That whenever Mr *Lee* should declare any of the Cures complete, and desire his final Report of them, he or his Assistants might then have the Liberty of visiting and examining the Men, as often as he should think proper; in order that they might themselves be

be Witnesses, that they had entirely left off the Use of their Trusses, and that their Ruptures did not come down.

This Agreement was made about the Beginning of February, and, on the 4th of April following, it appears by the Minutes of the Board, " That Mr Lee attended with three Men, whom he alledged he had cured of Ruptures; but when Mr Cheselden and Mr Thomas were examined to the Cases of the said Men, Mr Cheselden alledged, that he had not been privy to the Condition of the said Men, before they put themselves under the Care of Mr Lee, and therefore he could not be thoroughly acquainted with the Nature of their Cases, or judge of the Performance of the Cures;" and consequently desired to be excused from ever making any Examination, as to the Cure of those three Men. This we may suppose the Board acquiesced in, as the following Order was made that Day, " That Mr Cheselden do previously inspect the State and Condition of such Men, as shall put themselves under the Care and Direction of the said Mr Lee." And soon after this Order, Mr Cheselden did examine seven Men, at two different Times, previously to their being taken under Mr Lee's Care.

In a very short and inconsiderable Space of Time, Mr Lee declared all these seven Men were cured by him, though no Report was made of any of them by Mr Cheselden to the Board, till 16 Jan. 1750-1; for the greatest Part of this Interval of Time, was passed in almost continual Altercations and Disputes between Mr Cheselden and Mr Lee, in relation to the different Methods of examining these Men, thus declared cured, which were warmly proposed and insisted on, on each Side.

Mr

Mr *Cheselden* was for adhering to that Method he said Mr *Lee* had agreed to on his first Appointment, which was, that, whenever Mr *Lee* should declare any of the Cures complete, &c. he or his Assistants might then have the Liberty of visiting and examining the Men, as often as he should think proper, in order that they might themselves be Witnesses that they had entirely laid aside the Use of their Trusses. And this Method he thought fair and unexceptionable, troublesome to himself only, but very advantageous to Mr *Lee*, provided the Trusses were bona fide left off, and the Men were cured.

On the other hand, Mr *Lee* was perpetually teasing and labouring, by all Arts and Means, to prevail with him to fix a peremptory Day for the Examination of these Men; on which single Examination Mr *Cheselden* was to make a conclusive Report, whether the Men were cured or not; and consequently could have no Proof, that the Men had not continually worn their Trusses to the very Day, nay the very Hour, fix'd for this Examination.

Mr *Cheselden* remonstrated again and again, but all in vain, that this Method was absolutely insufficient to ascertain the Truth, or give him any real Proof of the Mens being cured.

And, indeed, what possible Harm could arise to Mr *Lee* or the Men, from this frequent Inspection of them? Mr *Lee* declared them perfectly cured, and that they had left off their Trusses for some Time. The ostener then Mr *Cheselden* examined them, and the more certain he made himself, by such Examinations, of the Truth of these Facts, the more it would have redounded in the End to Mr *Lee*'s Credit; Mr *Cheselden*'s Report would have been satisfactory to the Commissioners, and

an Opportunity been given of publishing Mr Lee's Success to the World, *on such Authority, as could not have been disputed.*

On the contrary, was not the refusing Mr *Cbeselden* this Opportunity of convincing himself, taking it entirely out of his Power to be of any Service whatsoever to Mr *Lee*? Was it not likely that the Commissioners would be unsatisfied with a Method of Examination, which Mr *Cbeselden* must in Duty inform them, was such, that had there been a Design laid to deceive and impose upon them, no Method could have been better calculated to answer that End?

This, at least, we were informed of by Mr *Cbeselden* himself, that the more vehemently and assiduously Mr *Lee* urged him to examine these Men, in this unsatisfactory Manner, the more he thought it behoved him to be on his Guard, and the more suspicious he became of the Truth of those *Attestations* which were made to him, that the Men had left off their Bandages, and were cured.

When Mr *Lee* found how backward and cautious Mr *Cbeselden* was, and how thoroughly resolved never to examine one Man in this slight and fallacious Manner, he became equally assiduous in painting him out in such Colours to the Commissioners, as should enable him to carry his Point without him. And, with this View, he used his utmost Endeavours to persuade them, that they would never come at the Truth, if they trusted to their Surgeons; that Mr *Cbeselden* was particularly his Enemy, a Person unskilful in the Nature of Ruptures, and one, who, as often as he had asked him to examine the Men he had cured, as constantly refused to do him that Justice; and therefore he requested them to appoint him their Surgeon,

Surgeon, for the Relief of the ruptur'd, with such Salary, &c. upon the Faith of his own Assertions, that the Men were perfectly cured, and had left off their Bandages; upon the Faith of the Men themselves, who continually attended the Boards, in order to affirm the same; and, Lastly, on the Force of their Affidavits.

Ten of them went together, about this Time, before Justice Manley, and made *Affidavits* that they were perfectly cured, which *Affidavits* were produced to the Board.

The two following Memorials, deliver'd by Mr Lee to the Board, may serve to shew his Aim and Intention at this Time.

“ The Memorial of *Samuel Lee*, Surgeon, most  
“ humbly sheweth,

“ That, as Mr *Cheselden* made some *Objections*,  
“ the last Board-Day, to the *Bandages* worn by  
“ the Men then cured, thought it was necessary  
“ for them again to attend your Honourable Board,  
“ thinking you might be willing to ask them some  
“ *Questions*; as they have all of them left off  
“ their *Bandages* for a Month past, and walked  
“ much, without any Manner of *Inconveniencie*  
“ whatsoever.

“ Besides the said Men, one *Gage*, aged 85,  
“ and ruptured 36 Years, now attends, he being  
“ completely cured, and once inspected by Mr  
“ *Cheselden*, when his *Scrofula* was to the utmost  
“ distended by the prolapsed *Intestine*; and tho'  
“ Mr *Cheselden* was pleased to observe, the last  
“ Board-Day, that he had not examined the Men  
“ then present, I presume he was mistaken, I having  
“ been since informed, that they have been often  
“ by him inspected, and *Hannah* in particular, by

“ the Direction of Sir *Robert Rich*, as he was admitted an In-Pensioner on that Account alone.

“ For the greater Satisfaction of your Honourable Board, and in Justification of my own Conduct, I this Morning waited on Mr *Cheselden*, and desired the Favour of his *Inspection*, which he refused.

“ The four last Men inspected by Mr *Cheselden*, three Weeks since, have each laboured under this Complaint near thirty, and one fifty Years. These are all as well as can be expected in so short a Time, the Intestine being reduced, and the Scrotum reduced to its former Dimensions.”

*To the Honourable Commissioners, &c.*

“ The Memorial of *Samuel Lee*, most humbly sheweth,

“ That, in Obedience to the Direction of your Honourable Board, the Men I first took under my Care, *viz.*

	Aged.	Years Ruptur'd.
<i>John Hanna,</i>	45	9
<i>John Mudford,</i>	56	2
* <itho. i="" merriman,<=""></itho.>	66	16
<i>Abraham Gage,</i>	85	36

“ —These Men are all perfectly cured, have gone without any Bandage for four Months past, and

\* *Vide* p. 82. of the Narrative printed in Mr *Lee's* Favour, where are the following Words: “ As to *Merriman*, he was only a few Days under Mr *Lee's* Care, in the Year 1749, and he has not seen him since.—No Wonder then the Man should remain uncured.”

“ not

“ not felt the least Pain, Pressure, or Symptom of  
 “ their late Complaint, which I hope you will think  
 “ a convincing Proof of their perfect Cure.

“ The Men I since took under my Care, were  
 “ all inspected by Mr Cheseelden, when the Scrotum  
 “ was to the utmost distended by the prolapsed In-  
 “ testine, and he was then pleased to tell me,  
 “ that the Case of each was much worse than he  
 “ should have chose for me, and that if I cured  
 “ either of them, I could cure any Person afflic-  
 “ ed with that Complaint.

“ I then took the following eight Men under  
 “ my Care, viz.

	Aged.	Years Ruptur'd.
Humpb. Lackington,	56	10
John Steed,	57	4
John Colson,	60	17
John Tanner,	85	5
William Fielding,	59	20
Stephen Cowel,	63	21
John Brocas,	64	56
William Storey,	65	36 —

“ —Three Times under the Care of Sir Thomas  
 “ Renton, and various others, and found no Relief.

“ These Men all wore Trusses at the Time I  
 “ took them under my Care, and had done from  
 “ the Time they were first ruptur'd; but could  
 “ never keep up the Rupture one Minute, nor  
 “ walk without the greatest Pain and Uneasiness,  
 “ which, with the consequent Infirmities of old  
 “ Age, rendered the Cure far more difficult; tho'  
 “ they are now perfectly well, and can walk as well  
 “ as ever in their Lives, without any Pain, Pres-  
 “ sure, or Uneasiness, in the Parts formerly

[ d 2 ]                    “ affected.

“ affected. As I have not failed in one Instance,  
“ I hope you will think it a convincing Proof.”

“ And, as there are a great Number of deplorable Objects, both In and Out-Pensioners, who labour under this Complaint, truly deserve Compassion, and daily beg my Assistance, I hope you will appoint me, for the Relief of all such as are, or shall be ruptured at the said Hospital; and for my Trouble and Attendance, to order me such a Salary as in your Discretion, your Honours shall deem meet.”

Arundel-Street,

6 Sept. 1750.

Samuel Lee.

It is here to be observed, that there had not as yet been any Proof produced to the Board, that Mr Lee had performed a single Cure, besides his own, and the Men's Assertions.

No Notice was therefore taken of this Petition by the Board; but as Mr Lee acquainted them, that though he had frequently requested Mr Chelsden to examine the Cures of the Men, he had constantly refused; the Board Order'd, “ That Mr Chelsden do report specially to the Board, at the next Meeting, the State of the Cures Mr Lee alledges he has performed.”

Harras'd and tired out, as Mr Chelsden had been with Mr Lee's Importunities, and unhappy now, lest the Commissioners should give any Credit to the many Complaints Mr Lee had made of him, with the grossest Misrepresentations of

How true this Assertion is, the Reader will see particularly, in the Certificate sign'd by the Surgeons, at the End of this Account, where there are six of these Men's Names, *dead*, *Lackington* out of the Hospital.

his

his Reasons, why he would not examine the Men; he still resolved not to make a Report upon an Examination made in the Manner Mr Lee proposed. And when Mr Lee made fresh Application to him for that Purpose, in consequence of this Order, he declared so to Mr Lee; adding, that he should do himself the Honour to lay his Reasons, in Writing, before the Commissioners, at their next Meeting, and humbly beg them to take the Opinions of the King's Surgeons, whether such a single Examination could afford any Proof that a complete Cure was performed.

It was this *Intimation* Mr Cheselden supposed (as he informed us) that induced Mr Lee soon after to consent, that four of the Men, alledged to be cured, should be brought for an *Inspection*, three Times a Week, for one Month; Mr Lee still refusing Mr Cheselden the Liberty of examining himself, whether the Men wore their Trusses on the intermediate Days, or no.

The Result of the Examinations, made in consequence of this Agreement, and Mr Lee's Conduct and Behaviour on the Occasion, with the whole Transactions on 16 Jan. when Mr Cheselden made his Report, require some Attention.

16 Jan. 1750-1.

Mr Cheselden's Report was read, in which he declared, that upon the Examinations of the Men, produced to him by Mr Lee, as perfectly cured, " on 3 Dec. last, two of three Men had their Ruptures down; and on the Friday following, Mr Lee brought four Men to him, two whereof had their Ruptures down."

*Note.* Mr Cheselden's written Report having not been preserved, this Part of it is taken from the Minutes.

We

We shall give Mr Lee's Account of these Examinations, from the Narrative published in his Favour, p. 14, 15.

" —The Conclusion was, that Mr Cheselden should, according to his own Request, examine four Men for one Month, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon. The Men, fixed upon for Examination, were John Hanna, William Storey, John Tanner, and Peter Curtis; with these Mr Lee attended Mr Cheselden at the Time appointed, who inspected them, but continued not to do it the whole Month, as required at the Board, after three Examinations alledging, that Mr Lee might spare himself any farther Trouble, since the Men were as well as ever they were in their Lives, and that he found not the least Appearance of a Rupture in any of them, at the same Time promising, that he would certainly make his Report in his Favour.

" Mr Lee then repeated Mr Cheselden's Words, in his Presence, to the four Men, and desired they would particularly remember them; but having Reason, from Mr Cheselden's former Behaviour, to suspect his Sincerity, he thought it prudent to establish so material a Point, by the Affidavits of the four Men, who immediately went and made one accordingly; and which, Mr Lee took with him to the next Meeting of the Commissioners, which was on 16 Jan.  
" 1750-1.

" Who now would believe, That at this Meeting, after a Memorial from Mr Lee was read, setting forth, that Mr Cheselden had acquiesced in the Cure, declined any farther Examination, and promised to report in Mr Lee's Favour?

" Who,

“ Who, I say, would believe that this *very* Mr *Cbeselden* should affirm to the Board, that two  
 “ of the said Men had their Ruptures down at the  
 “ Time he examin’d them, and that the Examina-  
 “ tion was given up at Mr Lee’s Request ? Or  
 “ who would believe, that when Mr Lee pro-  
 “ duced the Affidavits of the four Men in his  
 “ Justification, they were not permitted to be  
 “ read ? ”

To this last Question we answer, that Mr *Lee* might have known this was the Reception the Affidavits would naturally meet with from the Commissioners, by what had been said to him before that Day on the Subject of their Affidavits.

And this had been so often repeated to him, before the Publication of the Narrative, that we wonder with what Face this Question could be put *at the Time* and in the *Manner* it is *there* done.

The Secretary at War gives us Permission, *in his Name*, to publish the Substance of what he has, at different Boards, said himself to Mr *Lee*, on finding that every Day’s Debates produced fresh Affidavits from some or other of these weak old Men, *viz.*

“ That he had *a very bad Opinion* of these old  
 “ Men’s *Affidavits*, and thought *no Credit* was to  
 “ be given to them.

“ That he had told him as much the very first  
 “ Time he had seen him at the Board ; and more,  
 “ that if he had been present *the first Board-day*,  
 “ whatever Influence he had with the Board,  
 “ should have been exerted against *his* having ever  
 “ been admitted, without other and better Proof of  
 “ *his Abilities to cure.*

“ That

“ That these old Men were too easily to be induced to swear to any Writing, which should be prepared for them.

“ That this had appeared in former Transactions, as well as this; and

“ That he thought it was high time to put a Stop to the Progress of Perjury amongst them.

And he farther adds, that some Time after, at another Meeting, “ more Perjury appearing, and there not being a sufficient Number of the Commissioners present to act as a Board, he had, for the above Reasons, taken upon himself to order that no more Pensioners should be put under the Care of Mr Lee, hoping the next full Board would confirm his Order. Nor is this the only Instance, wherein one or two Commissioners, in Cases that requir'd Dispatch, have made Orders to take place for the present, and to be annull'd or confirm'd by the next full Board.

“ And this Order was accordingly confirmed at the very next Board, at which five Commissioners were present.”

The Reader has the Secretary at War's Reason for taking this Measure; and sees how little Credit he thinks, as the Board likewise did, there ought to be given to such Men's Affidavits.

If Mr Cheselden had made this Examination of the poor Men by himself without any Witness besides Mr Lee and the Men, who made the Affidavits of his Words, it might not perhaps appear so surprising to the Reader, that every thing he said was so directly contradicted by Mr Lee; as it must, when he is inform'd that it was made in the Presence

Presence and with the Assistance of Mr *Thomas* and Mr *Reid*, the latter of whom took a Minute of it in writing on the Day the Examination was made: Of which the following is an exact Copy.

To the Truth of this Mr *Reid* gives his most solemn Testimony, as Mr *Thomas* gives his, to the Truth of the Facts therein related.

*Friday, 7 December.*

“ Mr *Lee* brought to the Infirmary the following Men to be examined, *John Hanna*, *Peter Curtis*, *John Tanner*, and *William Storey*. Mr *Chefelden*, Mr *Thomas*, and I, examin’d three of them, viz. *John Tanner*, whose Rupture was at that Time up; *Peter Curtis*, and *William Storey*, the Ruptures of both these appeared in the Groin; but Mr *Lee* would not allow the Swellings that appear’d in their Groins to be Ruptures, tho’ Mr *Chefelden* reduced them into the Belly with his Hand in my Sight, and a Dispute arising between Mr *Chefelden* and Mr *Lee* about the Reality and Perfectness of these two Men’s Cures, the Result was, that Mr *Lee* said, it did not signify his giving himself the Trouble of coming with the Men to Mr *Chefelden* any more, since if he would not allow *William Storey* and *Peter Curtis* to be cured, he never would allow any, or Words to that Effect. *John Hanna* was not examin’d by Mr *Chefelden*.”

The Reason why *John Hanna* was not examin’d, was, that he was one of the first four Men undertaken by Mr *Lee*, without any previous Examination of Mr *Chefelden*, whom he had refused to examine on that account on 4 April, 1750. he ought not therefore to have been brought to

Mr Cheselden this Day. Notwithstanding this, he went before Justice Manly, and signed the following Affidavit:

“ I John Hanna, aged 45, and now an In-Pensioner at His Majesty’s Royal Hospital at Chel-  
sea, make Oath, that I have been afflicted with  
“ a large and painful Rupture in my right Groin  
“ for five Years last past, in which Condition I  
“ was examin’d by W. Cheselden, Esq; Surgeon  
“ to the aforesaid Hospital, who acknowledged me  
“ to be ruptur’d, as above described, and, since my  
“ Cure, I have been three Times examin’d by  
“ Mr Cheselden, viz. on or about the 10th of  
“ September last, and the 3d and 7th of this In-  
stant December, and at this Examination the  
“ said W. Cheselden, Esq; told Mr Lee, that there  
“ was not the least Appearance of my Rupture; that  
“ he always found me well and exactly the same;  
“ and therefore desir’d Mr Lee would not trouble  
“ himself to attend him any more, because he was  
“ satisfied of the Cure: To which Mr Lee an-  
“ swer’d, that he did not think it any Trouble,  
“ but would attend him as often as he thought  
“ necessary. Mr Cheselden then said, that there  
“ was no manner of Occasion for it, that three Ex-  
“ aminations were as good as three thousand, and  
“ that he would make his Report the next Board-  
“ Day, without giving Mr Lee any further Trou-  
“ ble. The above Words, or Words to the very  
“ same Effect, Mr Lee repeated to me in the Pre-  
“ sence of Mr Cheselden, and said, I hope you will  
“ remember what Mr Cheselden has said. In wit-  
“ ness whereof, and that I have continued per-  
“ fectly well to this Day, and can now walk as  
“ well as ever in my Life, without feeling the  
“ least Pain, Pressure, or Symptom, of my late  
“ Com-

“ Complaint, I have hereunto set my Hand this  
“ tenth Day of December, 1750.

*Westminster,*

Sworn, 10 Dec. 1750.

before me,  
Rich. Manly.

J. Hanna.

*N. B. Storey, Tanner, and Curtis, each made an Affidavit to the same Purpose, and are all ruptur'd at this Time. J. Hanna died in July, 1752, and his dead Body was inspected by several Physicians and Surgeons, in the Presence of Mr Lee, and the following is the Report made to the Commissioners, with regard to the State of his Rupture at his Death.*

“ Whereas it has been reported that *John Hanna*, whose dead Body we have this Day inspected, was perfectly cured of a Rupture, under which he some time laboured, we do hereby certify, that the Perforation of a Rupture on the right Side was so large, as easily to admit three Fingers,—a most certain Proof that the said *Hanna* had not been cured of his Rupture.”

Signed in my Pre-  
sence, July, 24.

*H. Fielding.*

*Benjamin Hoadly, M. D.*

*Messenger Monsey, M. D.*

*Caſar Hawkins,*

*Thomas Hawkins,*

*David Middleton,*

*William Hunter.*

*Surgeons.*

“ No Credit being given to these Affidavits of the Pensioners, in Contradiction to Mr Cheſelden,

Mr *Lee* then observed to the Board, that it was implied in his Report, that the other Men's Ruptures were *not* down: which he insisted on, as a certain Proof that those Men were *cured*; and consequently, that if Mr *Cheselden* reported those Men *not* cured, whose Ruptures were down, he ought, in Justice to him, to report the others *cured*, whose Ruptures were *up*.

This Conclusion, as a Point of Surgery, was debated for some Time between Mr *Cheselden* and Mr *Lee*.

" Mr *Lee* then acquainted the Commissioners, " that he had four Men attending without, whom " he desired might be immediately inspected by " Mr *Cheselden*, tho' they had been three Times " examined by him before; Mr *Cheselden* having " accordingly examined the said Men (during the " Sitting of the Board) and being call'd upon to " declare his Opinion, specially of their Cases, " said, That for ought appears to him, two of the " said Men are cured, he not finding the Orifices " open."

With regard to the Orifices being closed, this is no more than what is every Day produced by a Truss, which has for any time prevented the Rupture from coming down: but whether they have acquired a sufficient Strength of Contraction to prevent the Return of the Rupture, cannot be known by any Examination, but must be proved by Time and Exercise, upon totally leaving off the Truss.

It is plain it was not Mr *Cheselden's* Opinion that they *were cured*, by his desiring that the Serjeant-Surgeons might be applied to, to examine these Men with him, which the Board acquiesced in, and made the two following Orders.

January 16, 1750-1.

“ Order’d, that Mr *Cheselden* do examine the  
“ said four Men, in the Presence of Mr *Ranby* and  
“ Mr *Hawkins*, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty.

“ Order’d, That Mr *Cheselden* may have Li-  
“ berty at all Times to examine the Cases of these  
“ Men, in the Presence of Mr *Lee*, who is not  
“ previously to visit the said Men.”

The first of these Orders sufficiently denotes, that the Board was not satisfied with the Proof given them, that *these Men were cured*: and the latter seems to imply some kind of Suspicion, where it is directed that Mr *Lee* should not *previously* visit the Men; tho’ Mr *Cheselden*’s chief Point of gaining Permission to visit them at all Times, without Restriction, (after they were once declared to be cured) in order to know whether they continued the Use of their Trusses, or not, was made of no Effect, by his being confined never to make an Examination but *in the Presence of Mr Lee*.

We beg the Reader more particularly to remark this Restriction, as upon this Point the same Disputes arose between the Serjeant-Surgeons and Mr *Lee*, as had subsisted between Mr *Cheselden* and him before.

In obedience to this Desire of the Commissioners, intimated soon after to them by Mr *Cheselden*, Mr *Ranby*, and Mr *Hawkins*, went over to his Apartment at *Chelsea*, where Mr *Lee* produced several old Men to them, whom he profess’d to have cured.

Before any Examination, they made a previous Enquiry of Mr *Cheselden*, whether he knew the

Men

Men before him to be the same he had formerly examin'd and found ruptur'd.

Mr *Chefelen* declared upon his Honour, that he believ'd they were not all the same, only two or three of them.

They then ask'd Mr *Chefelen*, whether he knew those Men had been without their Trusses for any Time previous to that Examination.

To this Mr *Chefelen* answer'd, that Mr *Lee* had not permitted him to make any such Enquiry, and, consequently, he could not inform them.

Mr *Ranby* and *Hawkins* view'd and examin'd them all, and took Notice, that there was not the least Appearance in the Parts to be examin'd, which could induce them to believe any Alteration whatever had been produced in them by medicinal Applications.

One only (*John Hanna*) had his Rupture appearing in his Groin. The Ruptures of the others were not down; but several of them had such Redness and Marks upon their Skin round their Hips, even almost to galling, that they had not the least Doubt but that these Men had worn their Trusses even to a short Space of Time before they were brought to them.

Mr *Lee* however requested a Certificate from Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*, as well as from Mr *Chefelen*, that they had no Appearance of a Rupture, and were perfectly cured.

When they express'd their Surprise at this Request, on such a single Examination, Mr *Lee* begg'd and insisted strongly on their certifying, that, upon Examination, the Men appear'd to be well.

They told him, they imagined this was only changing the Expression, as it would always be under-

understood as if they had nothing to object at that Time to their being perfectly well.

They desired him to consider, that they had no one Proof whatever before them of the Men's being cured.

One of these (*John Hanna*) whom he produced as cured, had his Rupture appearing then in his Groin.

Of the others, there was no Evidence that one Part of them had ever been ruptured.

How then, or with what Propriety could they certify these Men were cured?

Mr *Lee* answer'd, that the Affidavits of the Men themselves would prove that.

Mr *Ranby* and *Hawkins* said, they could never allow that the Affidavits of such Men should be A Counterpart to any Certificate of theirs.

Then, as to the other Men, whom Mr *Chefelen* knew to be ruptur'd, there was no Evidence whatever, that they had laid aside their Trusses for any Time; but, on the contrary, it appeared most evidently to them, by the Marks on their Hips, &c. that they had not only lately worn their Trusses, but had even worn them so tight as to gall and fret the Skin.

This Mr *Lee* protested, that they had not worn a Truss for many Months.—The Men declared the same.

They then proposed to Mr *Lee*, that he should permit Mr *Chefelen* to make such Enquiries, as he should think proper, to ascertain this one Fact, that these Men had really left off their Trusses: And they would name another Day for a second Examination,

To this Mr *Lee* objected, saying, that Mr *Chefelen* was his Enemy, &c. and that he never would

would allow *him* any such Permission, nor suffer him to examine his Patients in his Absence.

Here then was an End, and Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* declared it was impossible for them ever to certify in his Favour, if he would not, or could not produce better Proofs of Cure, then he offer'd them at that Time.

Indeed Mr *Chefelden* had informed them, that with regard to the Men's Attestations, he wish'd them to be upon their Guard, for he thought they were not to be trusted at all; for *Hanna* kept a Publick House, and it was notorious to every one in the College, that the ruptur'd Men were always drinking there.

However, though they could not trust to the Attestations of these Men, who declared they had already left off their Trusses, and Mr *Lee* would not permit Mr *Chefelden* to make the proper Enquiries to satisfy them, that they continued to do so for the future; they were willing to shew their Disposition to spare no Trouble to themselves, if any Method of Examination could be fixed upon, that was fair and satisfactory, and therefore proposed to Mr *Lee* to take four or five new Men under his Care, and let them first see that they were ruptured; and then they would afterwards make all proper Enquiry into their Cures, from Time to Time, as became them as Judges between the Board and him.

This Proposal Mr *Lee* at last assented to. A Day was fixed upon for bringing these new People to St George's Hospital. Mr *Chefelden*, Mr *Ranby*, and Mr *Hawkins* attended. But Mr *Lee*, instead of new Men with Ruptures down, for them to inspect, as fresh Subjects for him to cure, brought with him the same Men they saw at *Chelsea*, petitioning, as at that Meeting, a Certificate that they were

*were cured*, or appeared to be well : To which, of course, the same Objections they made before were still valid. This they declared to Mr *Lee*, which was the whole that passed between them at the Hospital that Day.

Very soon after, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* had the Honour of a Message, desiring their Attendance upon the Board.

*April 24,* } This Message they obey'd, and found  
 1751. } Mr *Lee* had brought with him several  
 of the People they had seen at Mr *Chefelen's*, petitioning *still, as before*, that upon the present Appearance of them, a Report should be made to the Board, whether the Men were cured, or not.

When they were called in to the Board, they related all that had pass'd at Mr *Chefelen's*, and at *St George's Hospital*, and gave their Reasons in the strongest Manner they could, why they could not possibly make any *final Report*, 'till Mr *Lee* would allow them more sufficient Evidence to form their Judgment upon, than single Examinations.

But as Mr *Lee* was very earnest to have the Men he had brought thither examined directly, the Paymaster asked, if there were not some amongst them that Mr *Chefelen* knew to have been ruptured ; and Mr *Chefelen* naming *Peter Curtis* and *John Tanner*, he desired the Serjeant-Surgeons to examine them with Mr *Chefelen* and Mr *Lee* ; adding, that he did not require a final Report, 'till they themselves were satisfied.

“ *Their Ruptures were not down* ; but Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* took Notice, that the *Openings* of the Muscles, through which the Ruptures used to descend, *were large and unclosed*,

“ in such Manner, that they concluded their Ruptures would come down sooner or later, upon their using Exercise, and that these Men were not cured.”

“ This they reported to the Board, and likewise that both the Men had very apparent Marks upon their Skin of the Wear of a Bandage; and that they had observed one of them, when he put up his Breeches, roll’d the fore Lappet of his Waistcoat into a hard Compress, which he placed properly in his Groin, and button’d his Breeches exceeding tight over it, so as, in Reality, to make this Compress and Waist-band of his Breeches an excellent Substitute for a common Truss.”

This Account of their Examination of these Men, and of their Report, is taken from the Words of their Narrative \*, read to the Commissioners, (in the Presence of Mr Lee) who had themselves seen, and examin’d the Marks on the Skin, and had been Eye-Witnesses of the Rolling up, and buttoning in the Flap of the Waistcoat tight into the Breeches. It was not then necessary to be particular in every Circumstance. But as Mr Lee, in a Memorial deliver’d to the Secretary, Dec. 11, 1751. gives the following very different Account (attested, as usual, by both the Men’s Affidavits made before Justice Manley) it will be necessary to lay all the Circumstances before the Reader as they really happen’d.

“ Both these Men, *Fanner* and *Curtis*, happening to attend at that Time, and the Surgeons being order’d to examine them in an adjacent Room, they there admitted each Man to be perfectly cured, but in less than two Minutes

\* Vide Appendix, p. 12.

“ went

" went in, and had the Assurance to report to the  
" honourable Board, that they were not cured ;  
" which Contrariety induced the honourable Com-  
" missioners to order an Examination in their Pre-  
" sence, when they appear'd to be perfectly cured."

The Surgeons, at the Request of the Board,  
went into an outer Room, and examin'd these Men.

The Ruptures were not down, but there were  
such apparent Marks on the Skin of the very late  
Wear of a Truss, that they ask'd the Men, whe-  
ther they did not still wear their Trusses ? The  
Men denied it :—They repeated the Question, tel-  
ling them, they saw such Marks as could not but  
convince them, some sort of Bandage or other had  
been very lately applied to those Parts.

The Men were putting up their Breeches at this  
Time, and Mr *Hawkins* observing one of them  
fumbling in doing it, kept his Eye upon him, and  
saw him roll up the Flap of his Waistcoat, and  
button it tightly into his Breeches. Upon his  
mentioning this to Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Chefelden*,  
the Man was endeavouring to undo it ; but they  
prevented him, and carried them both directly  
into the Board, and they were examin'd before  
the Commissioners and the Gentlemen with them,  
one of whom was Sir *William Tonge*.

It appear'd plainly to the Commissioners, and  
it is believ'd to every one present, that tho' the  
Ruptures were not down, yet there were *Marks*  
upon the Skin in both, and that one of them had  
roll'd up the Flap of his *Waistcoat*, and button'd it  
tight into his *Breeches*, which was unbutton'd be-  
fore them, that they might see how artfully it was  
managed : and Mr *Ranby*, Mr *Hawkins*, and  
Mr *Chefelden* declared, that those *Marks* on the  
Skin were sufficient Proofs to them, that both the  
Men had but very lately pull'd off their *Trusses* ;

[ f 2 ] that

that the Openings of the Muscles were unclosed in such manner, that it was *their Opinion* their Ruptures would come down again soon on their using Exercise, and that they were not cured; and that this Roll or Lump, thus tightly applied to the proper Part, was, in their Mind, as good a Substitute for a Truss, for the present Time, as could have been invented, and therefore that this Man ought to be look'd upon as having his Truss on at the very Time he was offer'd to be examin'd as one perfectly cured.

Sir William Yonge recollect'd, and mention'd, at Mr Ranby's Trial, this Circumstance of the Flap of the Waistcoat, and that Mr Ranby had said it was of the same Nature with a Truss.

The Secretary at War too was questioned to the same purpose at that Trial, and said, he remember'd that one of the Men had the Flap of his Waistcoat folded up in his Breeches, and being ask'd his Opinion why the Man had done so; he answer'd, that he mention'd this only as a Matter of Fact, which he saw. As to any Opinion, he did not pretend to any Skill in the Nature of Ruptures, to form an Opinion of any Weight upon, and therefore he should only say what he thought himself at the Time, which was, that the Man made this Use of the Flap of his Waistcoat to strengthen some weak Part.

The Testimony of these two Gentlemen, thus given at a public Trial, will sufficiently convince the Reader of the Truth of this Fact, which, together with the Marks on the Skin, and the State of the Perforations thro' the Muscles, were the Foundation of Mr Ranby's and Mr Hawkins's Report, that, tho' the Ruptures were not then down, they would very soon be down, if the Men were kept without their Trusses, and that therefore they could not themselves think either of these Men cured.

Tho'

Tho' these Circumstances were so strongly rememb'r'd by these Gentlemen at the Trial near two Years after, yet, the very *November* after the Examination, both *Tanner* and *Curtis* made each of them an Affidavit (one of which the Reader will presently see) to the same Purport with what has been quoted from Mr *Lee's* Memorial, and almost in the very Words; declaring, at the End of them, that they were then perfectly well, but without mentioning one Circumstance relating to their Bandages. And even after the Trial, when the Narrative in Mr *Lee's* Favour was publish'd, the Account is given there in a Manner still more glaringly false.—*Tanner* and *Curtis* " were order'd to " be examin'd in an adjacent Room, where they " admitted them to be perfectly cured; but at " their Return to the Commissioners, reported " their Ruptures down, &c." \*

The Conclusion of this whole Affair at the Board this Day, was, the Commissioners making the same Proposal to Mr *Lee*, that had been made him at Mr *Chefelden's* Apartments by the Serjeant-Surgeons, of beginning a new Experiment with fresh Men (on which Proposal Mr *Lee* declined all further Experiment). And when the Company was withdrawn, giving Mr *Chefelden*, at his Request, a Permission to examine these two Men at any Time he pleased in the Absence of Mr *Lee*.

The Reader will easily believe Mr *Chefelden* was not long before he made use of the Liberty thus given him, and, three Days after, at the very first Examination of these Men, he found they had each of them his Trus's upon him, and, when that was remov'd, each of them had his Rupture come down.

\* Vide p. 19. Narrative wrote in Mr *Lee's* Favour.

This

This Discovery of Mr *Cheselden's* produced so very extraordinary an Affidavit from one of these old Men, and so very malicious a Reflection on Mr *Cheselden's* Memory, in the Narrative in Mr *Lee's* Favour, that we must beg the Reader's Patience, whilst we lay the whole before him.

The Affidavit, tho' a long one, we think right to give at Length, as it refers to both his Examinations, that before the Commissioners on the 24th, as well as this on the 27th, and as a Sample of the Stile and Manner in which the Affidavits are drawn on which Mr *Lee* builds all his Proofs, tho' the Men, who make them, can hardly write their Names; and these two Men, *Tanner* and *Curtis*, only set their Marks.

" This is to certify, That I *John Tanner*, aged 85, was ruptured nine Years, which rendered my Scrotum four Times as large as its natural Size, and in this Condition I was examined by *William Cheselden*, Esq; who acknowledged me to be ruptured as above described, and by his Direction I received a Truss for that Complaint, but never found the least Relief from that or any other Application that has been by him applied; and I do farther say, that before I came under the Care of Mr *Samuel Lee*, Surgeon, that I was told by the said Mr *Cheselden* that my Case was incurable: however, knowing several Men at the said Hospital that the said Mr *Lee* had cured, I applied myself to, and came under his Care in or about the Month of April, 1750, and I was by him perfectly cured of my said Rupture, and since my Cure I have been five or six Times, and in different Months, examined by the said Mr *Cheselden*, and at each Examination admitted to be well and perfectly cured, and I was also once examined by Mr *Ranby* and Mr

" Mr *Hawkins*, Surgeons, since my Cure, at  
 " Mr *Chefelden's* Apartments in *Chelsea Hospital*,  
 " and there admitted by each of them, and  
 " Mr *Chefelden*, to be perfectly cured; and since  
 " that Time I was examined by the said two Sur-  
 " geons, Mr *Chefelden*, and many others, at  
 " *St George's Hospital*, and there again admitted  
 " by each Man to be perfectly cured. To prove  
 " the Truth of which, I, with many others, did, on  
 " or about the 24th of *April* last, attend the Ho-  
 " nourable Commissioners for the Affairs of the  
 " aforesaid Hospital, to whom Mr *Chefelden*,  
 " Mr *Ranby*, and Mr *Hawkins*, reported I was  
 " not cured, notwithstanding I had before that  
 " Time made two Affidavits that I was perfectly  
 " cured, on which Mr *Lee* then insisted; and the  
 " said Commissioners, as I am informed, was  
 " pleased to direct the said Surgeons to examine  
 " me in an adjacent Room, which they and  
 " Mr *Chefelden* then did, and there each of them  
 " again said that I was well and perfectly cured;  
 " and, not two Minutes after that they went in, and  
 " again reported to the Commissioners, as I am in-  
 " formed, that I had my Rupture down at that  
 " Time; and, on Mr *Lee's* insisting that it was  
 " false, I was called in before the said Commis-  
 " sioners, and by each of them, in the Presence of  
 " the said three Surgeons, I was examined, in-  
 " spected, and found to be perfectly well, and  
 " since that Time, (viz.) on or about the 27th of  
 " April last, Mr *Thomas*, Assistant-Surgeon to the  
 " said Mr *Chefelden*, came to me as I lay asleep on  
 " my Bed, and by Force pulled me down to the  
 " Apartments of the said Mr *Chefelden*, at whose  
 " Door I then saw the above named two Surgeons,  
 " Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*, and as soon as I  
 " came into the Room Mr *Chefelden* said to me,  
 " Here,

" Here, drink this Dram, which he gave me in a  
 " Glass, but it was not above a large Spoonful,  
 " which I drank up, and found it did not taste  
 " any thing like Brandy, which he told me it was,  
 " though I believe in my Conscience it was not,  
 " for I was immediately seized with such violent  
 " shaking and trembling, that I really thought I  
 " should die, and that this was occasioned by that  
 " which Mr *Cheselden* gave me; and in this Con-  
 " dition I continued for many Days after, and  
 " hourly expected my Death, being almost choak-  
 " ed, and it was with the utmost Difficulty that I  
 " could draw my Breath; but thank God, by taking  
 " Phyfic daily, and Mr *Lee*'s good Care, I of  
 " that also recovered, and can now walk, consi-  
 " dering my Age, as well as ever in my Life,  
 " without feeling the least Pain, Pressure, or  
 " Symptom of my late Rupture: In Witness  
 " thereof, and that I to this Day remain perfectly  
 " cured, I have hereunto set my Mark, this 10th  
 " Day of *October*, 1751.

Westminster to wit,  
 Sworn 10 October,  
 1751, before me  
 Richard Manley.

John + Tanner's Mark.

The same wicked and scandalous Story, how-  
 ever incredible, is told in the Narrative, in almost  
 the same Words, p. 21.

He begins with the same false Facts.—*The Assistant-Surgeon went to his Apartment, — by Force dragg'd him to Mr Cheselden's Apartment, — at the Door of which he saw the Serjeant-Surgeons.* — Mr *Cheselden* there offered him a Dram, which was not above a large Spoonful in a Glass, which he drank; but thought it did not taste like Brandy, though  
 Mr *Cheselden*

Mr *Cheselden* told him it was.—And then proceeds still with false Facts.

“ If so, it must be allow’d to have produced a very unusual Effect; for the poor old Man was immediately seized with a violent shaking and trembling, which continued many Days, attended with a great Difficulty in drawing his Breath, insomuch that his Death was hourly expected; but he happily recovered.

“ Now, if it be considered, how convenient bringing down this Man’s Rupture would be to the Credit of the Triumvirate, it will require no great Stretch of Credulity to suppose some forcing Medicine administred for that Purpose, and which indeed seems to be the Case; for the Serjeant-Surgeon soon after waiting on Sir *William Yonge*, told him, that Lee had sufficient Reason to be angry with Mr *Cheselden*, but none with him.”

This Story is all of a-piece. Mr *Ranby* never said this to Sir *W. Younge*. There is no such Medicine known as a forcing Medicine to bring down a Rupture. His Illness, after leaving Mr *Cheselden*, is all a Fiction. The Serjeant-Surgeons were not at Mr *Cheselden*’s. There is no ope Circumstance true, but Mr *Cheselden*’s giving him a Dram, as may be seen by the following Account given us by Mr *Thomas*, to the best of his Memory, of the whole as it pass’d.

27 April, 1751.

“ Mr *Cheselden* directed him to go to their Wards after Dinner-Time, and bring *Tanner* and *Curtis* to him, at his Apartment, which he did accordingly. Mr *Cheselden* and he examin’d them, found their Trusses on; and, on their [ g ] Removal,

“ Removal, their Ruptures came down. Mr *Cheselden* then expostulated kindly with them, “ asking *Tanner*, in particular, how so old a Man, “ between 80 and 90 Years of Age, with one Foot “ in the Grave, could go to deceive the Board, “ and give false Testimony that he had left off “ his Truss, and even make an Affidavit of such “ a Falshood.

“ The Men seemed concerned at Mr *Cheselden's* Discourse, upon which he gave them a Dram, “ and bid them go and have a better Way of “ thinking for the future.”

Mr *Thomas* assures the Public, that this is a true Account of the whole Affair.

It is our Indignation on this Insult on Mr *Cheselden's* Memory, that has made us dwell so long upon this Subject.

No Surgeon in *England*, or perhaps in any other Country, has done more Honour to his Profession than Mr *Cheselden*. His Reputation has been so well established all over *Europe*, that there is not a Surgeon of any Note, that is not ready to acknowledge, how much he is obliged to him for the great Improvements he struck out in Surgery. Surely every unprejudiced Person will imagine it more likely, that such a Man, *retired* as he was then from *private* Business, in so honourable a *public* Employment, would have rejoiced at an Opportunity of introducing, under his own Patronage, so general a Benefit to Mankind, as a *speedy, certain, and radical Cure of Ruptures*, rather than suppose him capable of using the lowest and basest Arts, to stifle a Discovery, which if real and efficacious, he must be very sensible would very soon be proved so to the Public.

Mr *Ranby*

Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* thought this Affair entirely at an End, on Mr *Lee*'s declining any Experiment; but it seems Mr *Lee* had very soon after changed his Resolution, for on the 22d of the next Month, he brought four Men to *St George's Hospital*, according to an Appointment made, at his Request, with Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*; who were examined, and allowed to be ruptured, and these he was to begin a new Experiment on.

From this Time they heard no more from Mr *Lee*, 'till the Beginning of *March*, 1751-2, when Mr *Lee* went to Mr *Ranby*'s House, and told him, the Men examined at *St George's Hospital* were cured, and desired he would appoint a Time with Mr *Hawkins*, when they might all three go together, to make an Examination of the Men.

This Manner of Examination Mr *Ranby* refused; but desired Mr *Lee*, if he thought them cured, to give it him in Writing, with a Declaration of their having left off their Trusses, and to leave a Notice of the same Kind at Mr *Hawkins*'s; and that then they two would take proper Opportunities of visiting and examining the Men at their own Times, and in such Manner as should be satisfactory to themselves, that the Men did not wear Trusses, and of their Appearances of Cure. And afterwards, at a proper Time, they would be very ready to make a just Report.

This Method Mr *Lee* refused, though consonant to the Agreement made when he undertook their Cure.

2 April, 1752. On the 2d of April following, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* were desired to attend the Board, which they did; but as Mr *Lee* had given them no Opportunity of knowing that the Men, whom he might

propose for their Examination that Day, had left off their Trusses for any Time ; they took the Liberty of humbly representing to the Board, " that the Method of seeing and examining Men, who, for ought they knew, " might have worn their Trusses 'till the " Time they were presented to them for Examination, could not give them any real or satisfactory Proof of their being cured of their Ruptures, they knowing, from certain and constant Experience, that those Ruptures which have been kept up by Bandage any Time, seldom appear, or drop down at once, without Exercise, or some strong Motion of the Body ; that some grown Persons, with the Help of common Trusses, are cured ; and that most would appear to be so, though in Reality they were not, upon such an Examination as this which Mr Lee proposed, &c.\*"

This Representation we left in Writing with the Commissioners, having drawn it up at their Request, before we had their Leave to withdraw. After we were gone, the Board came to the following Resolutions, express'd in their Minutes, thus :

" At a Board held on Thursday, 2 April, 1752.  
" Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; the  
" Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Lord Ilchester,  
" Sir Philip Meadows, Col. Cossley.

" John Ranby and Cæsar Hawkins, Esqs; Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty, attended the Board, and declared their Opinion in Writing concerning the Cure of Ruptures.

\* Vide Appendix, p. 15.

“ Mr *Lee*, Surgeon, attended with Dr *Thomson* and others, who gave their Opinions upon the same Subject.

“ And after considering what was offer'd on both Sides, the Board came to the following Resolution:

“ That Mr *Lee* may undertake the Cure of such In-Pensioners, afflicted with Ruptures, as should voluntarily put themselves under his Direction, their Cases being first certified to him by the Surgeon or Surgeon's Deputy of the Hospital, and in twelve Months after, the Operations of his Cures will be consider'd by the Board, and he will be rewarded accordingly.”

We cannot forbear laying hold of an Opportunity which offers itself from that Part of the Minutes which says, “ Mr *Lee*, Surgeon, attended, with Dr *Thomson* and others, who gave their Opinions upon the same Subject ;” of shewing what sort of Evidence Mr *Lee* would willingly have pass'd upon the Board for convincing Proofs that the Men were cured : After we were gone,

Dr *Thomson*, and Mr *Mitchel*, Surgeon, attended the Board, and gave in the following Certificate, the Truth of which they attested to the Board.

“ We do certify that we have examin'd

*John Tanner,*  
*Peter Curtis,*  
*James Morgan,*  
*John Hanna,*  
*John Hamilton,*  
*Richard Harvey.*

“ and do find that they are all cured, and that  
“ they

“ they have no Appearance of their Ruptures at  
“ this Time.”

*T. Thomson, M. D. Physician to  
Nov. 23.  
1751.*

*his Royal Highness the Prince  
of Wales.*

*W. Mitchel, Surgeon to the  
Royal Regiment of Horse-  
Guards, Blue \*.*

Mr *Lee* inform'd the Board, that the Men attended without, and Dr *Thomson* and Mr *Mitchel* were desir'd to examine them in the next Room; it being insinuated at the same Time, that if the Men should be now found, as well as they were found in *November*, there could be no stronger Proof possibly given, that they were perfectly cured.

How artfully was this contrived, to shuffle over the main Thing wanting to make this *any* Proof *at all*, viz. the Certainty that these Men had discontinued the Wear of their Bandages from *November* to *April*.

These Gentlemen went out, examin'd the Men, and return'd with the following written Certificates.

	Aged.	Years Ruptur'd,
<i>John Hanna</i>	46	5
<i>William Storey,</i>	66	30
<i>Peter Curtis,</i>	80	5
<i>James Morgan,</i>	50	9
<i>John Tanner,</i>	86	5
<i>Richard Harvey,</i>	43	4

\* This Certificate refers to a private Examination, which we suppose was made by these Gentlemen, at Mr *Lee*'s Request; upon which single Examination, it is there said, “ We do certify, that we have examined, and do find that they are all cured.”

“ I do

“ I do certify that I, with Messieurs *Cheselden*,  
 “ *Ranby*, and *Hawkins*, did examine some of  
 “ the six above-named Men, when they were  
 “ ruptur'd, and Mr *Cheselden* was present at the  
 “ Examination of all except *Hanna*.

*J. Thomas.*

*N. B.* Mr *Thomas* refused to sign the following Certificate.

“ We the under-named do certify, that we  
 “ have examin'd the six above-named Men, and  
 “ that they have not at this Time any Sign,  
 “ Symptom, or Appearance of a Rupture, and  
 “ all the Men declare they have not wore a Ban-  
 “ dage for some Months of any Kind whatsoever,  
 “ and some have left it off for twelve Months,  
 “ and some for near two Years, witness our Hands  
 “ the 2d Day of *April*, 1752.

*Thomas Thomson, M. D.*  
*William Mitchel.*

These Gentlemen certify a great deal more than we possibly could.

On the Men we examin'd, we saw Marks on the Skin, &c. that convinced us they had lately worn their Trusses; and this we thought a Sign of their being ruptur'd Men. But still, tho' they certify more than we could, their Certificates prove nothing at all. Indeed, if they could have proved, in the proper Sense of the Words, that in *November* the Men were without any Sign, Symptom, or Appearance of a Rupture, that in *April* they were so too, tho' but at one Examination only: And, besides this, that they had continued so from *November* to *April*, without ever once wearing their Trusses, the Board would undoubtedly have concluded they were cured: But as this was not done,

done, as the main Proof that they had never worn their Trusses still rested on the Mens Declarations and Affidavits alone, and as the Commissioners could not give so entire and easy Credit to those Declarations and Affidavits, as these Gentlemen seemed to do, the Proof of Cure just remain'd as it was before these Certificates were produced.

Another of those who accompanied Mr Lee, was Mr Roebuck, and he declared in Person to the Board, that he had been ruptur'd, and worn a Truss for many Years; till, applying to Mr Lee, he was cured by him *in a few Hours*; nay, *that he found the Benefit of the Application even before Mr Lee removed his Hand, so that he wore the Truss no longer than the following Night.*

The Quickness of his Cure, and the Ease that accompanied it, was, one would think, so remarkable, as not easily to be forgot by the very Person himself. Yet, when Mr Roebuck gave his Evidence in *Westminster-Hall*, in the Cause between Mr Ranby and Mr Lee, he swore he wore the Truss but a *Day or two*; and, when cross-examined, he said he kept it on *not more than a Fortnight*. Surely, from a Gentleman at least, a consistent Evidence might have been expected.

To return—Mr Cheselden dying soon after, and Mr Ranby succeeding in his Place, he immediately petitioned the Board, on the very first Opportunity, to give him the same Permission of examining *all* the Men whom Mr Lee had reported to be cured, that had been granted before to Mr Cheselden, with regard to *Tanner* and *Curtis* only.

Accordingly, at a Board, held on the June 24, 1752, present the Right Hon. *William Pitt*, Esq; the Right Hon. *Henry Fox*, Esq; Sir *Philip Meadows*, and Col. *Cosley*, when Application

lication was made for an Order to examine, from time to time, such Men as Mr *Lee* had affirmed were cured of Ruptures ; it was " ordered, that " the Surgeon of the Hospital, or his Deputy, " do examine the said Men as often as either " of them do think necessary, in relation to the " Performance of such Cures."

The Reader will observe, the Application was made to the Board *only* to examine *such* Men as Mr *Lee* had affirmed to be *cured*, which implies having left off their Bandages entirely ; and therefore could be of no Disservice to Mr *Lee*, if what he declared was really true ; and farther, that this Liberty was what Mr *Cheselden* was always endeavouring to obtain of Mr *Lee* himself by *Agreement*, which he sometimes promised, but would never once permit : and what he could never obtain from the Board till the 24th of *April*, 1751, (which extended only to *Tanner* and *Curtis*) without having this Injunction added to it, that such Examination must be in the Presence of Mr *Lee* ; by which Means he could never be certain, the Men would not be apprised of his Coming before-hand, and be too much on their Guard to be found in such a Manner, as, if there was any Trick to be plaid him, in respect to their Trusses, he could possibly discover it.

He was always very confident the Men were not cured. He had reason to suspect they still continued the Wear of their Bandages.—If he proved this, it would be a *Matter of Fact*, point blank the contrary to what Mr *Lee* had affirmed to the Board, and to what the Men had sworn ; and, consequently, would render suspected, and of *no Force*, all Mr *Lee*'s *Objections to his Opinions*, that the Men he had examined were *not cured*, whose Ruptures were *not down* at their Examina-

[ h ] tions ;

tions ; which Opinions were founded on the visible Marks, which, he said, proved to him, as a Surgeon, that they had very lately worn a Truss, or some other tight Bandage.

Mr *Cheselden* found his Suspicions well ground-ed, with Regard to *Tanner* and *Curtis* ; and, had his Life been spared, would, in all Probability, have made the full Discovery of the Wickedness of all the other old Men, which afterwards fell to Mr *Ranby*'s Lot.

Mr *Ranby* thought as Mr *Cheselden* did, that his first Enquiry, in consequence of this Order, was to find, whether the old Men had really left off their Bandages. Mr *Ranby* was therefore re-solved to inspect them at different Times, as he should happen to find them, when out of their Wards, and walking about ; suspecting, in Case they were sent for to him in Form, they might possibly leave their Trusses at Home.

Whenever, therefore, he himself, or his Députi-  
ties, met with them thus in their Walks, they car-  
ried them into the next Apartments, wherever  
they were most likely to meet with any of the  
Servants of the Hospital, to be present at the Ex-  
amination ; imagining, that as this Proof was to  
be laid before the Commissioners, none were so  
proper Evidences as their own Servants, who were  
undoubtedly competent Judges of this Matter of  
*Fact*, whether the Men had their Trusses on, or not ;  
but, amongst the Witnesses to these Examinations,  
the Reader will find several of Character and Skill  
in this Disorder.

In this Manner, before the next Board-Day, he  
himself, or his Assistant-Surgeons, caught off their  
Guard, examined, and found almost every Man,  
who had been reported by Mr *Lee*, in one or  
other (and some in all) of his Memorials, as *cured*,  
perfectly

*perfectly cured, — left off their Bandages for Montbs, — some for a Year; — who had been certified to be cured by Dr Thompson and Mr Mitchel, — and (what is still infinitely worse, for these two Gentlemen might have been deceived) who had made (some of them repeated) Affidavits, that they were as well as ever they had been in their Lives. — We say, he found them with their Trusses on, and on taking off their Trusses, their Ruptures immediately came down.*

So that not a single *Man*, whom he examined thus, could in any Signification of the Word, cured, be affirmed to be more so, than he was when he was first undertaken by Mr Lee.

The laying these several Examinations, at Length, before the Reader, will break in too much upon the Thread of this History, which is now drawing very near to a Conclusion.

They may be seen, at Large, in the Minutes of the Board, at which they were read, in the Presence of Mr Lee, and at which every Witness attended in Person, and attested the Truth of every particular Examination.

At this Board, held on *Feb. 8, 1753*, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* gave in a Narrative, introductory to the Account of these Examinations, which contained a short Recapitulation of all they then thought the most material Circumstances, that had occurred in the Course of their Enquiries and Examinations; together with their several Opinions, and their two Reports, the first of which was made in Conjunction with Mr *Chefelen*, and the other by themselves, a little before he died. \*

\* For this Narrative and the Examinations annex'd, see p. 8. of the Appen.

*At a Board held on 14 March, 1753. Present the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Lord Ilchester, Sir Robert Rich, Col. Cofsley, and Sir Philip Meadows.*

The Commissioners examined six of the Men themselves, assisted by Mr Thomas; and the following are short Minutes of each Examination, taken by their Secretary.

*John Tanner* got a Fall about 6 Months ago, and then his Rupture came down,—his Truss was on at the Trial,—and his Rupture came down now immediately upon taking off the Truss.

*William Story*, has now his Rupture down,—hath been in Lee's Hands three Years,—had his Truss on before he came into the Room,—had his Bandage on when he make Affidavit of his Cure before Justice *Manley*,—went without a Bandage for 4 Months,—Mr Lee took him in Hand in July 1750,—Mr Thomas says, his Rupture is now in the State it was, when he first undertook his Cure,—wears his Truss sometimes when he walks,—the Rupture grown larger while he was under Examination of the Commissiones,—has made two Affidavits before *Manley*, and says he made but one.

*Peter Curtis*, another Trial-Man,—his Rupture as small at first as it is now,—wore his Truss 'till last Week,—wore it for Security and for Warmth, by Advice of Mr Lee,—made an Affidavit of his Cure before *Manley*, by the Recommendation of Mr Lee,—*Story* was with him, and made Affidavit at the same Time.

*Stephen Cowell*, a large Rupture,—had his Bandage on before the Board,—could not swear that he was cured,—never left off his Truss.

*John*

*John Coulson, can't tell what he sign'd in his Affidavit, leaves off his Bandage by Night, but not by Day,—his Rupture now down,—is well with a Bandage on,—to wear the Bandage, by Mr Lee's Order, as long as he lives,—had his Bandage on when he made Affidavit,—the Contents of it were writ, and he was well for ought he knew*

*Thomas Merriman says, he is not cured,—found no Benefit from Mr Lee; but a Truis from Mr Cheselden did keep up his Rupture,—Mr Lee reported he was cured.—*

*“ Adjourn'd, 'till Monday next, and that Mr Lee may be sent to attend, if he pleases, when there will be a full Board, and will finally determine upon Matters laid before them relating to his Conduct at Chelsea.—*

*“ Mr Thomas not to certify any more Men to Mr Lee.—*

*At a Board held at the Hospital-Chamber, in Whitehall, on Tuesday, 27 March, 1753. Present, Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Lord Ilchester, Sir Robert Rich, Col. Cossley.*

Mr Lee, according to Summons attended, and the Minutes of the Board, taken the 14th of March, 1753, were read to him; whereby it appeared that John Tanner, William Story, Peter Curtis, John Coulson, Stephen Cowell, and Thomas Merriman, personally examined in the Presence of the Commissioners, were at that Time uncured of their Ruptures, notwithstanding they had been severally under Mr Lee's Care.

The Board then resumed the Consideration of a Narrative, which had been presented to them,

8 Feb.

8 Feb. 1753, by *John Ranby* and *Cesar Hawkins*, Esqrs; Serjeant-Surgeons to his Majesty; to which Narrative were annexed, Copies of Examinations, Certificates, and Declarations, relative to seventeen Pensioners, and fully proving Mr *Lee*'s Insufficiency in the Cure of Ruptures, and the Artifices made use of by him to establish the Credit of such Cures. And Mr *Lee* admitted, that at the Time the same was read, he did not offer to disprove any thing therein contained.

The Board then order'd the Resolution to be read, which they came to on the 2d of *April*, 1752, which is as follows.

“ That Mr *Lee* may undertake the Cure of such In-Pensioners afflicted with Ruptures, as should voluntarily put themselves under his Direction, their Cases being first certified to him by the Surgeon, or Surgeon's-Deputy of the Hospital; and in Twelve Months after, the Operation of his Cures will be considered by the Board, and he will be rewarded accordingly.”

The Board having taken the whole into Consideration, and *finding no Cures performed*, but many Mal-Practices carried on by Mr *Lee*, have judged him no Ways intitled to any Reward for one Year's Experiments, as above recited, and do forbid him all Attendance upon the Hospital for the future.

Thus ended this Affair at the *Chelsea* Board. But just at the Breaking up of the Parliament, the Narrative two or three Times referr'd to by us (writin Mr *Lee*'s Vindication) was clandestinely dispers'd, in which it is asserted, p. 79. in Capital Letters, “ that Mr *Lee* was ready to submit the Welfare of these very Men to the candid Judgment of any impartial Tribunal.”

This

This Sentence, if it means any thing more than a Reflection upon the Commissioners, must mean that the Men were really well and perfectly cured, notwithstanding all that had been represented to the Commissioners.

The Matter of Fact, that the Men wore their Bandages still, surely the Commissioners and their Servants are as competent Judges of, as any Man whatever; and as to the Point, whether cured or not cured, tho' Mr *Ranby* knew the Men were really not cured, and the Commissioners were convinced of it; tho' he was ready at any Time to shew any one who had any Doubts of the Truth of what was declared in their Narrative; and tho' he had, since this Affair was ended at the Board, carried many to see them, and never once found them without a Truss, or the Rupture down: Yet he wanted to be able to give some public Testimony to such as did not think it worth the Trouble, or did not know how to apply to see the Men themselves.

And with this View, he invited several of the principal Persons of the Profession, to dine with him at *Chester*.

On the Day appointed, the Deputy-Governor, at Mr *Ranby*'s Request, issued out his Orders early in the Morning, that all the In-Pensioners should repair to the common Hall at Five o'Clock in the Afternoon; and the proper Officer called out these Men from amongst them, that had been Mr *Lee*'s Patients, and carried them into another Apartment, where they were all, one after another, examined by these Gentlemen, and the Reader will judge of the State of these Men, at this Time, by the following Certificate made to the Public by them, whose Names and Characters are too well known in every Part of the Town, and Kingdom, for

for the Reader to want any Notice given him, what Hospitals they belong to, or where to be found.

The C E R T I F I C A T E.

July 13 1753.

“ The following In-Pensioners of *Chelsea Hospital*, viz.

- \* *Stephen Cowel,*
- \* *John Colson,*
- \* *John Brocas,*
- \* *John Hamilton,*
- \* *William Storey,*
- \* *John Tanner,*
- \* *Peter Curtis,*
- Thomas Merriman,*
- Thomas Clark,*
- William Fielding,*

*Randal Colman*, were severally examin'd  
“ by us, whose Names are under-written ; they  
“ had every one of them Trusses on, upon the  
“ Removal of which Trusses, all their Ruptures,  
“ except *Peter Curtis's*, came down.

- John Ranby,*
- Cæsar Hawkins,*
- D. Middleton,*
- Peter Saintbill,*
- Edward Nourse,*
- Robert Adair,*
- Samuel Sharp,*
- Joseph Paul,*
- William Hunter,*
- John Thomas,*
- Alexander Reid.*

All

All these Men, except *Clark*, the Reader will find reported to the Commissioners, in Mr *Lee's* Memorials, *perfectly cured*, and those mark'd with \* have made one, or more Affidavits to the same Purpose.

*N. B.* There is something worth the Reader's Note in *Curtis's Case*, whose Rupture did not appear this Day.

His Rupture was down *Dec. 7, 1750.*  
 was not down *April 24, 1752.*  
 was down *June 27, 1752.*  
 was down *March 14, 1752.*  
 and this Day was not down *July 15, 1753.*

Is not this a Case, in point, sufficient to convince any one, that a single Examination can give no Proof, that a Person is perfectly cured?

and the following day he was to be present at the  
ceremony of consecration of the new church.

and I will know you are a good citizen. I will  
see you in the fall. I am  
Yours truly

1. *La Città di Genova* (1880) *La Città di Genova* (1880) *La Città di Genova* (1880)

T H E

**A P P E N D I X.**

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AN AUTHENTICK  
**C O P Y**

OF ALL THE

MINUTES of *the* Board,

FROM

*Mr Lee's first Appointment to his  
 Dismission; including a Narrative,  
 &c.*

*At a Board held on Wednesday 31 Jan. 1749-50.  
 Present, Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Sir  
 Philip Meadows, Lord Ilchester, Sir Robert  
 Rich, Col. Cosley.*

**T**HE Paymaster-General communicated to the Board, a Letter he had received, dated the 29th Instant, from *Samuel Lee*, Surgeon, inclosing several Certificates of his Success in curing Ruptures. And the Commissioners present, having taken the same into their Consideration, came to the following Resolution.

That the said *Samuel Lee* should make Experiments upon such In-Pensioners of *Chelsea Hospital*, as should voluntarily submit themselves to his Care, and that he should have a reasonable Compensation for his Trouble and Attendance upon them.

A

*Ordered,*

**Ordered,** That the Secretary do acquaint him with the aforesaid Resolution.

*At a Board held on Wednesday, 4 April, 1750.  
Present, Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Col. Cofsley.*

*Samuel Lee,* Surgeon, attended with three Men, whom he alledged he had cured of Ruptures; whereupon Mr *Cheselden* and Mr *Thomas* were examined to the Cases of the said Men: But Mr *Cheselden* alledged, that he had not been privy to the Condition of the said Men, before they put themselves under the Care of Mr *Lee*, therefore he could not be thoroughly acquainted with the Nature of their Cases, or judge of the Performance of the Cure.

**Ordered,** That Mr *Cheselden* do previously inspect the State and Condition of such Men as shall put themselves under the Care and Direction of the said Mr *Lee*.

*At a Board held on Tuesday, 15 May, 1750. Present, Sir Philip Meadows, Sir Robert Rich, Col. Cofsley.*

*Mr Lee,* Surgeon, attended, and represented, that he hoped soon to be able to produce several Men whom he had cured of Ruptures.

**Ordered,** That Mr *Lee* do attend the next Board, with such Men as shall be perfectly cured of Ruptures, and that Mr *Cheselden* be present to inspect them at the same Time.

*At a Board held on Thursday, 6 Sept. 1750. Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Sir Robert Rich, Col. Cossley.*

Mr *Lee*, Surgeon, represented to the Board, that he had cured several In-Pensioners of Ruptures, which had been previously inspected by Mr *Cheselden*, Surgeon to the Hospital.

*Ordered*, That Mr *Cheselden* do report specially to the Board, at their next Meeting, the State of the Cures which Mr *Lee* alledges he has performed.

*Ordered*, That Mr *Lee* do, in the mean Time, proceed in the Care of such Men as are ruptured, and have been inspected by Mr *Cheselden*.

*At a Board held on Wednesday, 16 Jan. 1750-1.*

*Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Col. Cossley.*

Read, Mr *Cheselden's* Report upon the Ruptures of several Men who had been under the Care of Mr *Lee*, " setting forth, That upon the Examination of the Men, on 3 Dec. last, two of three Men had their Ruptures down. That on the Friday following, the said Mr *Lee* brought four Men to him, two whereof had their Ruptures down."

Mr *Lee* thereupon acquainted the Commissioners, that he had four Men attending without, whom he desired might be immediately inspected by Mr *Cheselden*, though they had been three Times examined by him before; Mr *Cheselden* having accordingly examined the said Men (during the sitting of the Board), and being called upon to declare his Opinion specially of their

Cases, said, That for ought appears to him, two of the said Men are cured, he not finding the Orifice open.

*Ordered*, That Mr *Cheselden* do examine the said four Men in the Presence of Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty.

*Ordered*, That Mr *Cheselden* may have Liberty, at all Times, to examine the Cases of these Men, in the Presence of Mr *Lee*, who is not previously to visit the said Men.

*Ordered*, That Mr *Lee* do proceed in the Cure of such Men as are ruptured, and have been inspected by Mr *Cheselden*.

*Ordered*, That they both attend the next Board.

*At a Board held on Wednesday, 24 April, 1751.*

*Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Lord Ilchester, Col. Cofsley.*

Mr *Cheselden*, Surgeon of the Hospital, Mr *Hawkins* and Mr *Ranby*, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty, and Mr *Lee*, attended the Board, according to Order of 16 Jan. last, upon the Cases of several ruptured Men; and after hearing their several Opinions, a Proposal was made to Mr *Lee*, that he should produce four or five new Men to the aforesaid Surgeons, whose Cases and Persons might be known to them, in order to be more certain Judges of the Progress and Performance of his Cures.

Mr *Lee* declined any further Experiment upon this Proposition.

*At a Board held on Friday, 7 June, 1751. Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon.*

*Henry Fox, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Lord Ilchester, Col. Cofsley.*

*Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows,  
Col. Cossley.*

*Ordered, That a Warrant be prepared for 50*l*. to Samuel Lee, Surgeon, in Consideration of his Attendance upon several Men afflicted with Ruptures.*

*At a Board held on Monday, 15 July, 1751. Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Col. Cossley.*

*Signed a Warrant for 50*l.* to Samuel Lee, Surgeon, in Consideration of his Attendance upon several In-Pensioners afflicted with Ruptures.*

*At a Board held on Friday, 6 March, 1752. Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Lord Ilchester, Sir Robert Rich. Col. Cossley.*

*Read, The Memorial of Samuel Lee, Surgeon, who had undertaken the Cure of several Pensioners who were afflicted with Ruptures.*

*Ordered, That the further Consideration thereof be postponed to the next Board Day, and that Messrs. Hawkins and Ranby, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty, be then desired to attend.*

*At a Board held on Thursday, 2 April, 1752. Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Lord Ilchester, Sir Philip Meadows, Col. Cossley.*

*John Ranby and Cesar Hawkins, Esqrs, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty, attended the Board, and*

and declared their Opinion, in Writing, concerning the Cure of Ruptures.

Mr *Lee*, Surgeon, also attended, with Dr *Thompson* and others, who gave their Opinions upon the same Subject.

And after considering what was offered on both Sides, the Board came to the following Resolution.

That Mr *Lee* may undertake the Cure of such In-Pensioners afflicted with Ruptures, as should voluntarily put themselves under his Direction, their Cases being first certify'd to him, by the Surgeon, or Surgeons-Deputy of the Hospital; and in twelve Months after, the Operation of his Cures, will be considered by the Board, and he will be rewarded accordingly.

*At a Board held on Wednesday, 24 June, 1752.*  
Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Sir Philip Meadows, Col. Cofsley.

Application was made for an Order to examine, from Time to Time, such Men as Mr *Lee* had affirmed were cured of Ruptures.

*Ordered*, That the Surgeon, or his Deputy, do examine the said Men as often as either of them shall think necessary, in relation to the Performance of such Cures.

*At a Board held on Thursday, 8 Feb. 1753.* Present, the Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Sir Robert Rich, Col. Cofsley.

John *Ranby* and *Cæsar Hawkins*, Esqrs, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty, attended the Board, and presented a Narrative to them, of what had passed.

passed relating to several Pensioners who had been under Mr *Lee*'s Care for the Cure of Ruptures; to which Narrative were annexed Copies of several Examinations, Certificates, and Declarations.

Whereupon Mr *Lee* was called, and the Narrative with the Papers annexed to it were read before him, as well as before the Parties mentioned in the Margin hereof, who were Witnesses to several of the Examinations, and who unanimously confirmed the Contents of them.

*Benjamin Hoadly*, Physician to His Majesty's Household.

*Messenger Monsey*, Physician to the Hospital.

*Caesar Hawkins*, Serjeant-Surgeon to His Majesty.

*T. Hawkins*, } Surgeons.  
*William Hunter*, }

*D. Middleton*, Surgeon-General to the Army.

*John Andrews*, Surgeon to His Royal Highness the Duke.

*John Ranby*, Surgeon to *Chelsea* Hospital.

*John Thomas*, } Deputy-Surgeons.  
*Alexander Reid*, }

*Daniel Graham*, Apothecary to the Hospital.

*Thomas Thornbill*, Apothecary's Chief Man to the Hospital.

*John Wilton*, Master-Butler.

*John Woodhouse*, Wardrobe-Keeper.

*Peter Ingbam*, Publican.

*Samuel Hawksworth*, Under-Cook.

*Robert Smith*, Apprentice to Mr *Reid*.

And Mr *Lee*, after hearing the same read, did not offer to disprove any Thing therein contained. Mr *Lee* then withdrew, and meeting in the Waiting-Room Mr *Thomas*, Deputy-Surgeon of the Hospital,

Hospital, who had signed as Witness to several of the Examinations before-mentioned. He, Mr *Lee*, without any Provocation, gave to the said Mr *Thomas*, in the Presence of several Persons, very abusive and threatening Language.

## NARRATIVE.

**I**N the Beginning of the Year 1751, Mr *Chefelden*, Surgeon to *Chelsea* Hospital, by Direction of the Right Honourable the Commissioners of the said Hospital, applied to Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*, as Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty, to desire their being present with him at an Examination of several of the Invalids of the Hospital, who were troubled with Ruptures, and were now declared to be cured, and were accordingly to be produced at this Examination as Proofs of an extraordinary Method of Cure lately invented by Mr *Lee*, Surgeon.

At the same Time Mr *Chefelden* gave Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* the following History, *viz.*—That Mr *Lee* had, about a Twelvemonth before, applied to the Right Honourable the Commissioners of *Chelsea* Hospital, declaring he had a Secret by which he could *cure all Ruptures*; and begged Leave that he might have the Liberty of applying his Remedies to some of their old Soldiers who had Ruptures, in order to produce them as so many public Testimonials of his extraordinary Skill in performing those Cures: This Liberty was granted him, but with Restriction, that such Cures were to be confirmed to the Board by Mr *Chefelden*, their Surgeon.

In Pursuance of this Order, Mr *Cheselden* told them, he did examine several ruptured Men, and proposed to Mr *Lee* the following Terms for the Order of their future Disquisition, which Mr *Lee* assented to, *viz.* That these old People should be brought to him (Mr *Cheselden*) three or four Times, 'till he had made himself sure he should remember their Faces, and so not be liable to mistake as to the Identity of their Persons: And that afterwards, whenever Mr *Lee* should declare these Men cured, that Mr *Cheselden* should have the Liberty of going to them at what Times, and as often as he pleased, to see that they did leave off their Trusses, and to know at different Examinations if their Ruptures kept up.

The Observance of these Terms, he told us, Mr *Lee* had totally neglected, the Men having never once called upon him after their Examination, nor had there been any Declaration made to him, by Mr *Lee*, of the Cures performed, in order that Mr *Cheselden* (according to their Agreement) should examine them in such Manner as should be satisfactory to him to answer the Trust reposed in him by the Board: Instead of this, that Mr *Lee* would insist upon producing these Men to him for *one single* Examination, and upon Mr *Cheselden* making his Report from this one View of them, whether they were cured or not.

That this Demand of Mr *Lee* had distressed him extremely, as he well knew that no one Examination alone, or even different Examinations, if he was not permitted by Mr *Lee* to visit the Men in the intermediate Time, to know for certain that they had left off their Trusses, could give him any satisfactory Evidence of such Cures; whilst Mr *Lee* insisting as strongly on the contrary, the Board, who naturally were to be

supposed unknowing in the Nature of Ruptures, might be perplexed with this Diversity of Opinions, or possibly think him backward in receiving and acknowledging Mr *Lee*'s Proofs, and imagine that Kind of Proofs sufficiently satisfactory, which in Truth and Reality was no Evidence at all ; in this Dilemma, that he had petitioned the Board, that Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* might be desired to assist at the Examination proposed.

In Obedience to this Desire of the Right Honourable the Commissioners (intimated to them by Mr *Cheselden*) Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* went over to Mr *Cheselden*'s Apartments at *Chelsea*, where Mr *Lee* produced several old Men to them, whom Mr *Lee* professed to have cured.

Before any Examination, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* made a previous Enquiry of Mr *Cheselden*, whether he knew the Men before him to be the same, he had formerly examined and found ruptured.

He declared, upon his Honour, that he believed they were not all the same, only two or three of them, whom he pointed out to Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*.

They then asked Mr *Cheselden*, if he knew that the Men had been without Trusses for any Time previous to that Examination, to which Mr *Cheselden* answered, that Mr *Lee* had not permitted him to make any such Enquiry ; and, consequently, he could not inform them.

Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* viewed and examined them all, and took particular Notice that there was not the least Appearance in the Parts they examined, which should induce them to think any Alteration whatsoever had been produced by medicinal Applications ; and, though none of them had Ruptures down at that Time, (one only,

only, *Hanna* by Name, having a small Appearance in his Groin) they thought they saw evident Marks upon several of them of their having lately worn Bandages.

However, to Mr *Lee* (who offered them many *Testimonials and Affidavits of his Cures*, and pressed them extremely to give him Certificates of those Men appearing to be cured) they only gave a general Answer, that they did not apprehend those *Certificates and Affidavits* lay properly before them at that Time; and, as they had neither proper Proof from Mr *Cheselden*, that the Majority of the Men brought thither by him had been ever *ruptur'd*, or, if they had been so, that they had gone any Time without their *Trusses*, they (Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*) must be excused signing any kind of Certificates.

But, as they had the Honour of being desired by the Board to make Enquiry into the Validity of his Cures, they would be ready to join with him in a fair Enquiry, by which the Truth could be properly ascertained; and proposed to Mr *Lee* the producing any Number he pleased of the old Pensioners, who were at that Time ruptured; that they could not, without great Inconvenience to themselves, attend so far as *Chelsea*; but if the Men might be brought to *Hyde-Park Hospital*, they would, at any Time, pay the Expence of Coach-Hire for them, and would take Care to make all such proper Enquiry, from Time to Time, as became them in the Situation of Judges between the Board and him.

This Proposal he at last assented to, and they agreed pretty nearly on the same Terms for their Method of Enquiry and future Determination,

which Mr *Cheselden* and Mr *Lee* had before agreed upon \*.

Very soon after the Meeting at *Chelsea*, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* had the Honour of a Message, desiring their Attendance upon the Board. This Message they obey'd, and found Mr *Lee* had brought with him several of the People they had seen at *Chelsea*, petitioning, as before, that, upon the prefent Appearance of those People, a Report should be made to the Board, whether the Men were cured or not.

Two of the old Men present Mr *Cheselden* declared he knew had been ruptured, *viz.* *Peter Curtis* and *John Tanner*, upon which the Board desired they might be examined.

Their Ruptures were not down, but Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* took Notice, that the Perforation of the Muscles, through which the Ruptures used to descend, were large and unclosed in such Manner, that they concluded their Ruptures would come down sooner or later upon their using Exercise, and that those Men *were not cured*. This they reported to the Board, and likewise, that they thought both the Men had very apparent Marks upon their Skin of the Wear of a Bandage, and that they had observed one of them, when he put up his Breeches, rolled

\* A Day was fixed upon for bringing such new People to *Hyde-Park Hospital*, Mr *Ranby*, Mr *Cheselden*, and Mr *Hawkins*, attended; but Mr *Lee*, instead of new Men with Ruptures for Examination, brought with him the same Men they saw at *Chelsea*, petitioning, as at that Meeting, a Certificate that those Men appeared to be well, to which of course the same Objections they made at *Chelsea*, a few Days before, were still equally valid: This they declared to Mr *Lee*, which was the whole that passed at *Hyde-Park Hospital*.

the

the Fore-Lappit of his Waistcoat into a hard Compress, which he placed properly in his Groin, and buttoned his Breeches exceedingly tight over it, so as in Reality to make this Compress, and the Waistband of his Breeches, an excellent Substitute for a common Truss.

Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* had, at the same Time, the Honour of laying before the Board their Reasons against making a Report, upon the Insufficiency of the Evidence before them, (as above recited at the *Chelsea* Meeting) and informed the Board of the Proposal which they had made to Mr *Lee*, for a New Enquiry.

Relative to this Proposal from them, the following is a Copy of the Minute now standing in their Books.

*Wednesday, 24 April, 1751.*

Mr *Chefelden*, Surgeon of the Hospital, Mr *Hawkins* and Mr *Ranby*, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty, and Mr *Lee*, attended the Board (according to Order of 16 Jan. last) upon the Cases of several ruptured Men; and after hearing their several Opinions, a Proposal was made to Mr *Lee*, that he should produce four or five new Men to the aforesaid Surgeons, whose Cases and Persons might be known to them, in order to be more certain Judges of the Progress and Performance of his Cures.

Mr *Lee* declined any further Experiment upon this Proposition.

However, it seems Mr *Lee*, very soon after, changed this Resolution; for, on the 22d of the next Month, he brought four Men to *Hyde-Park Hospital*, (according to an Appointment made

with Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins*) who were examined and found ruptured.

The original Paper as delivered by Mr *Lee*, of their Cases and Names, is at present in Mr *Ranby*'s Possession.

From this Time they heard no more from Mr *Lee* till the Beginning of March 1751-2, when Mr *Lee* went to Mr *Ranby*'s House, and told him, the Men examined at Hyde-Park Hospital were cured, and desired he would make an Appointment with Mr *Hawkins* for them all three to go together to make an Examination of the Men.

This Manner of Examination Mr *Ranby* refused; but desired Mr *Lee*, if he thought them cured, to give it him in Writing, with a Declaration of their having left off their Trusses; to leave a Notice of the same Kind at Mr *Hawkins*'s, and that then they two would take proper Opportunities of visiting and examining the Men at their own Times, and in such Manner as should be satisfactory to themselves, that the Men did not wear Trusses, and of their Appearances of Cure; and that afterwards, at a proper Time, they would be very ready to make a just Report. This Method Mr *Lee* refused, though consonant to the Agreement made when he first undertook their Cure.

On the 2d of April following, Mr *Ranby* and Mr *Hawkins* were desired to attend at the *Chelsea Board*; but as Mr *Lee* had given them no Opportunity of knowing that the Men, whom he might propose for their Examination that Day, had left off their Trusses, for any Time, they took the Liberty of humbly representing to the Board, " That the Method of seeing and examining Men, who, for any Thing they knew, might have worn their Trusses 'till the Time they were presented to them

“ them for Examination, could not give them any real or satisfactory Proof of their being cured of their Ruptures; they knowing, from certain and constant Experience, that those Ruptures, which have been kept up by Bandage any Time, seldom appear or drop down at once, without Exercise or some strong Motion of the Body: That even some grown Persons, with the Help of common Trusses are cured; and that most would appear to be so, though in Reality they were not, upon such an Examination as Mr *Lee* proposed. They added farther, that they had the strongest Conviction possible, from Experience or Science, that the Scheme proposed by Mr *Lee* could not be more effectual than the wearing the common Trus, and not likely to prove of any Utility to the Public, and this they would venture to put their Reputation upon.”

Upon the Subject of this Representation, they would here humbly beg Leave to observe, that they neither gave it hastily, or inconsiderately, or from any personal Prejudice to Mr *Lee*; but founded chiefly upon the following Reasons, which they had together maturely weighed.

And first, Mr *Lee*’s Pretence to Cure was by an external Application. And yet they knew, from what they had seen themselves, and from the best Authors, that the strongest Powers in Nature had been tried, over and over again, without Success; and to the Case in Point, that they had carefully examined several Men, whom Mr *Lee* had presented and professed to have cured by his Application, and had observed that there was not the least Mark or Appearance of the Efficacy of any medicinal Application; but, on the contrary, they felt the Skin over the Aper-

tures

tures of the Muscles quite soft and loose, the Parts next underneath the Skin had the same Softness and Laxity, and consequently the Apertures or Rings of the Muscles, as lying still deeper, could not have been acted upon to any Advantage.

Next, in the whole Course of their Enquiry, it appeared evident, to them that Mr *Lee* studiously avoided keeping to that Method of Proof which they desired, but was always pushing them to give a Report in his Favour, upon the most trifling and delusive Evidence.

Mr *Cheselden*, and Mr *Thomas*, the Assistant-Surgeon, had likewise informed them, that they had *taken Trusses off* two of the old Men (*Tanner* and *Curtis*) very soon after they had made *Affidavits* of their being *cured*, and saw their Ruptures come down immediately. This Mr *Thomas* tells them, he is now ready to testify. From hence, and many other Observations they had made, they were not without their Doubts of the Truth of the *Affidavits* in general.

Very soon after, Mr *Cheselden* died; Mr *Ranby* being appointed his Successor, an Order was granted by the Board, that he or the Assistant-Surgeon should make such Examination of the ruptured Men who had been under Mr *Lee*'s Care, as to them should seem proper.

In Consequence of this Order, Mr *Ranby*, desirous to inform himself whether the Men did or did not wear their Trusses, was willing to inspect them when out of their Wards and walking about, suspecting they might possibly leave them at Home, in case they were sent for to him in Form.

The Examinations which follow, are first, of those who had given *Affidavits* of their being *cured*.

27 June, 1752.

This Day examined, *John Tanner* and *Peter Curtis*, two Men reported at several *Chelsea* Boards, by Mr *Lee*, to be cured by him of Ruptures, by a Method intirely new; of which pretended Cures they had each made *Affidavit* about a Year and a half since; and from the Time of such *Affidavits*, that they had never worn a Truss, as he and they affirmed to several Boards. These Men had their Trusses on at the above Time of examining, which Trusses they confessed they generally wore: In a few Minutes after the Trusses were taken off, *their Ruptures came down into their Groin.*

*J. Ranby,  
John Thomas,  
Thomas Thornbill,  
Alexander Reid.*

*John Tanner* confessed to us, that his Rupture returned a Week after he had made *Affidavit of his being cured.*

*Thomas Thornbill,  
John + Gardner's Mark.*

29 June, 1752.

This Day examined, *William Storey*, another of Mr *Lee's Affidavit Men*, who had been reported at several *Chelsea* Boards to be cured of a Rupture, and that he had never worn his Truss from the Time of his making an *Affidavit* of his being cured. We found a Truss upon him, and in a short Time after its Removal, *the Rupture appeared in the Groin.* He says, that Dr *Lee* had

ordered him not to suffer himself to be examined, and always to wear his Truss when he walked.

*J. Ranby,  
John Thomas,  
Thomas Thornbill,  
J. Woodhouse,  
Peter Ingham,  
Samuel Hawksworth.*

Notwithstanding this solemn Examination, before so many Witnesses, the Board will be pleased to remark, that *this same Man* was carried the very next Day, to *sign and swear* before a Magistrate the following *Affidavit*, which was presented to His Royal Highness the Duke.

WE the under-named, voluntarily make Oath that we were produced by *Samuel Lee*, Surgeon, on or about the 11th of *June 1752*, at the Apartments of His Royal Highness the Duke of *Cumberland*, as Men that he had cured of a Rupture; and, in the Presence of *Sir John Legonier*, we were then examined as to the Particulars of our Cure, by several Officers then present, to whom we one and all declared, that we were well and perfectly cured, as in Fact we were, and had been for many Months.

And being now informed, that Mr *Ranby* had the Presumption, on *Sunday the 28th of June*, to tell His Royal Highness, that he had, on or before that Day, caught two of us by Surprize, taken our Bandages from us, and found us ruptured as bad, or worse than ever we were.

We (each for ourselves) declare, that it is absolutely false, and that Mr *Ranby* had not taken any Bandage from us, or even spoke to us, from the Day

Day that we were examined at His Royal Highness's Apartments, to the 28th of June.

And, for further Satisfaction to His Royal Highness, we now say, that we are perfectly well, and cured of our said Ruptures, and without any Bandage, and as free from Pain, Pressure, or Symptom of a Rupture, as if we never had been afflicted with that Complaint.

*Westminster to wit,*  
Signed and sworn the 30th Day  
of June, 1752, before me  
Richard Manley.

*John Hanna,*  
*James Morgan,*  
*Richard Harvey,*  
*William Story.\**

With what Truth *John Hanna*, whose Name is the first subscribed to the above *Affidavit*, could make such strong Declarations of an absolute Cure, may be seen by the following Attestation.

Whereas it hath been reported, that *John Hanna*, whose dead Body we have this Day inspected, was perfectly cured of a Rupture, under which he some Time laboured. We do hereby certify, that the Perforation of a Rupture on the Right Side, was so large as easily to admit of three Fingers.

\* The Day after Mr *Ranby* had detected *Tanner* and *Cartis* with Trusses on, he apprized the Duke of it, but without telling their Names; His Royal Highness mentioned it to Sir *John Legonier*, who (Mr *Ranby* apprehends) told Mr *Lee* of the above, which produced the *Affidavit* signed by *Hanna*, *Morgan*, and *Story*, which *Affidavit* the Duke himself gave to Mr *Ranby*.

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*A most certain Proof that the said Hanna had not been cured of his Rupture.*

24 July,  
Signed in my Presence,  
H. Fielding.

*Benjamin Hoadly,  
Messenger Monsey,  
C. Hawkins,  
\* T. Hawkins,  
William Hunter,  
D. Middleton.*

The Board will be pleased to judge of the Probability of *James Morgan*'s being perfectly cured, another of the Subscribers to the *Affidavit* delivered to His Royal Highness, from the following Attestations.

4 August, 1752.

*James Morgan*, In-Pensioner of *Chelsea College*, refused to be again examined this Day, being one of Mr *Lee*'s ruptured Patients who made *Affidavit* that he is cured, disobeyed the Governor's Orders, and said no Man should examine him, without an Order from the Duke of *Cumberland* or Mr *Lee*.

*John Thomas,  
Alexander Reid.*

\* *Mr Thomas Hawkins*, Surgeon, in *Parliament-Street*, was present at the Desire of the Friends of the Deceas'd.

4 August,

4 August, 1752.

Serjeant *James Morgan* said likewise, that he was ordered by the Duke of *Cumberland*, not to be searched without his or Mr *Lee*'s Leave, before he went to the Governor; but when before him, said his Orders were from Mr *Lee*.

*Alexander Reid,*  
*John Thomas.*

*N. B.* This Man suffered himself to be discharged the Hospital, rather than submit to be examined.

1 August, 1752.

This Day examined, *Stephen Cowell*, Ward XV, Found a Truss upon him; in two or three Minutes after it was taken off, the *Rupture* came down. He said he was well on one Side, and as well on the other as ever he expected to be. The above *Stephen Cowell* was the eighth of the *Affidavit-Men* that had been examined.

*John Ranby,*  
*John Wilton.*

30 July, 1752.

*John Cowson*, In-Pensioner of *Chelsea College*, having been under Mr *Lee*'s Care since *July 1750*, for the Cure of a *Rupture*, being examined this Day, found his Bandage on; and on taking his Bandage off, his *Rupture* came down into the *Scrotum*. This Deponent says, that about six Months ago, Mr *Lee* told him he was cured of his *Rupture*,

Rupture, and persuaded him to go to a Justice, where this Deponent says, he made *Affidavit* he was cured of his Rupture by Dr Lee; but he says, *he could not go one Day without his Bandage*, if he did his *Rupture came down*. And he further says, he had his Bandage on when he went to the Justice to make *Affidavit of his being cured*. Witness my Hand,

In the Presence of us,

John Cowson.

John Andrews,

John Ranby,

John Thomas,

John Wilton,

Thomas Thornhill.

30 July, 1752.

John Brocas, In-Pensioner of Chelsea College, having a large Rupture in the Scrotum, put himself under the Care of Dr Lee for a Cure. He says he was under Dr Lee's Care for six Months, and wore his Bandages, and thought himself cured; upon which Mr Lee took him to Justice Manley, where he made *Affidavit that he was cured of his Rupture by Dr Lee*; but having the Misfortune of falling down, being in Liquor, his Rupture came down again, having left off his Truss near three Weeks; and by examining him this Day, they found his Rupture in the Scrotum. Witness my Hand,

Witness,

John Brocas.

Daniel Graham,

John Wilton,

Thomas Thornhill,

John Thomas.

Here

Here follow the Cases of such as had not given  
Affidavits.

2 July, 1752.

*John Welch*, Pensioner of *Chelsea* Hospital says, that he put himself under the Care of Mr *Lee*, in order to be cured of a Rupture, and that the said Mr *Lee* promised to cure him for *three Guineas*, two of which was immediately paid to the said Mr *Lee*, and that he saw him several Times, and applied Trusses for six Months; and he further says, that the Trusses applied by Mr *Lee*, did not keep up the Rupture, and that he is now as bad with the Rupture, as he was before Mr *Lee* took him in Hand.

*John Welch.*

In the Presence of us,

*John Ranby,*

*John Thomas,*

*Alexander Reid,*

*Thomas Thornbill.*

30 July, 1752.

*William Fielding*, In-Pensioner of *Chelsea* College, having a large Rupture in the Scrotum, applied this Day for a Truss, having been under Mr *Lee*'s Care eighteen Months, and wore his Bandages; but now being so bad, he thinks himself a great deal worse than he was before he went under Mr *Lee*'s Care. And further faith, he received so much Pain from Mr *Lee*'s burning him with his Medicine, that he took the Skin off his Groin. And further says, that he received a Treat from

Mr

( 24 )

Mr Lee, at Mr Hanna's at the Red-Lion, and oftentimes Mr Lee gave him Money. Witness my Mark,

William + Fielding.

In the Presence of us,

John Thomas,

Richard Smyth,

John + Gardener's Mark.

22 July, 1752.

Randal Coleman, In-Pensioner, says, he put himself under the Care of Dr Lee for the Cure of a Rupture; he was under Mr Lee's Care about three Months, and wore his Bandages, but found Benefit no longer than he wore his Truss; for when he took his Truss off, his Rupture came down into the Groin. He further says, that he told Mr Lee, before he left off his Bandage, that he had received no Benefit from what he had done for him, and he would no longer continue under his Care. Witness my Hand,

In the Presence of,

Randal Coleman.

John Thomas,

R. Smyth,

John + Gardener's Mark.

9 July, 1752.

John Warden, Pensioner of Ward IX, (now in the Infirmary) says, that he was under Mr Lee's Hands for nine Weeks, but not since April 1751; that he wore his Bandages for half a Year, but they never kept up the Rupture so well as the Steel-Truss, made by the Truss-Maker to the Hospital,

Hospital, and that he is as bad as before he put himself under the Care of Mr Lee. Witness my Mark,

*John + Warden.*

In the Presence of

*Alexander Reid,*

*Thomas Thornbill,*

*John Thomas.*

*John Henry*, Out-Pensioner, says, that about ~~July~~ 1750, he put himself under the Care of Mr Lee, for the Cure of a Rupture on the Right Side; that he was under his hands for two Months, and wore his Bandages; that while he wore the Bandage the Rupture kept up, but on taking it off, would then come down as bad as ever. And on examining him this Day, the Bandage being off, his Rupture was down in the Scrotum. And he says, that he should have continued under Mr Lee's Hands longer, but that Mr Lee told him Mr Cheltenham had interfered between him and the Board, and prevented his curing the Men; and that he would not undertake the Cure of him, or any other, 'till he was sure of his being satisfied for his Trouble. Witness his Mark,

In the Presence of

*John + Henry.*

*Alexander Reid,*

*John Thomas,*

*John + Gardener's Mark.*

*John Henry*, Out-Pensioner, likewise says, that he was once invited to partake of fifteen Shillings, which Mr Lee gave to be spent at Mr Hanna's, among some of the Men who were under his Care; but not chusing to drink, he demanded

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his

his Proportion of the Money, but was refused by  
*Hanna*, who would have it all spent at his House.  
Witness,

John + Henry's Mark.

18 July, 1752.

## In the Presence of

*Alexander Reid,*

John Thomas,

## John — Gardener's Mark.

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John Hamilton, a Captain of Chelsea Hospital, who has been under the Care of Mr Lee for a Rupture since May 22, 1751, and that at Times when he has a Cough, which is generally from the Time the cold Weather begins, he always wore the Truss to prevent the Rupture from coming down; and now he says, something comes down, but not so low as it was before. He further says, that being once at Dr Lee's, where were present Dr Thompson and another Gentleman, he had his Truss on, and declared to Dr Lee, whom he called out of the Room, and told him he was not cured.

*John Hamilton.*

In the Presence of us,

John Ranby.

John Thomas,

*Alexander Reid,*

S. Woodhouse,

Samuel Hawksworth.

Thomas Thornbill.

regular, median to large, of crenate shape 25-30 mm. in length, of smooth surface and yellowish brown to yellowish tan color. The lobulations of placids of uniform size and

The Marks of the Truss were very apparent, both on the Groin and his Hips, and the Rupture down.

John Ranby,

Alexander Reid,

Thomas Thornbill,

John Thomas.

9 July, 1752.

I met Captain *Hamilton*. On my asking him how he did, and if he had his Truss on, he said he had not, and desired I would look to satisfy myself; which I did, and found no Truss, but in the Waistband of his Breeches I found a Bolster as big and as thick as a moderate sized Pincushion, which appeared to me to be a proper Substitute for a Truss; but, notwithstanding, the Rupture came down. Examined by me,

John Thomas.

Mr *Thomas* took out the Pincushion, and gave it to him again.

15 August, 1752.

Serjeant *Richard Burbridge*, In-Pensioner of *Chelsea College*, having been under Mr *Lee's* Care for two Months, applied for a Truss this Day. By examining him, he had a large Rupture in the Scrotum; and he says, Mr *Lee* put him in so much Pain with his Medicines, that he was obliged to keep his Bed nine Days. And this Deponent further says, Mr *Lee* wanted him to appear at the Board; but his Rupture being down at that Time, having a Fall the Night before, he did not appear; but says, he could not go an Hour together

gether without a Bandage. Before he had that Fall, he says, Mr Lee had ordered him to take off his Bandage before he went into the Commissioners at the Board, and to put it on again after he had been examined.

*Richard Burbridge.*

*In the Presence of  
John Thomas.*

There was one Person only, *Richard Harvey*, who at two Examinations was found without a Truss, and had no Rupture down.

The Remainder of the People who were in the List delivered by Mr Thomas, the Assistant-Surgeon, as containing all the Men who had been under Mr Lee's Care, and known by Examination to be ruptured, were upon Mr Ranby's Enquiry (one or two excepted whom he did not find) either dead, or gone out of the Hospital, *viz.*

*Henry Stead*, dead.

*Edward Hern*, dead.

*Peter Mitchell*, dead.

*Thomas Lugg*, dead.

*Andrew Agnew*,

*John Simpson*, } Gone out of the Hospital.

*Jos. Perry*,

*Thomas Clark*.

*William Johnson*.

*James Cable*.

At a Board held on 14 March, 1753. Present, the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Lord Ilchester, Sir Robert Rich, Col. Cossley, and Sir Philip Meadows.

*John Tanner* got a Fall about 6 Months ago, and then his Rupture came down,—his Truss was

on at the Trial,—and his Rupture came down now immediately upon taking off his Truss.

*William Story, has now his Rupture down,—hath been in Lee's Hands three Years,—had his Truss on before he came into the Room,—had his Bandage on when he made Affidavit of his Cure before Justice Manley,—went without a Bandage for 4 Months,—Mr Lee took him in Hand in July 1750,—Mr Thomas says, his Rupture is now in the State it was, when he first undertook his Cure,—wears his Truss sometimes when he walks,—the Rupture grown larger while he was under Examination of the Commissioners,—has made two Affidavits before Manley, and says he made but one.*

*Peter Curtis, another Trial-Man,—his Rupture as small at first as it is now,—wore his Truss 'till last Week,—wore it for Security and for Warmth, by Advice of Mr Lee,—made an Affidavit of his Cure before Manley, by the Recommendation of Mr Lee,—Story was with him, and made Affidavit at the same Time.*

*Stephen Cowell, a large Rupture,—had his Bandage on before the Board,—could not swear that he was cured,—never left off his Truss.*

*John Coulson, can't tell what he sign'd in his Affidavit,—leaves off his Bandage by Night, but not by Day,—his Rupture now down,—is well with a Bandage on,—to wear the Bandage, by Mr Lee's Order, as long as he lives,—had his Bandage on when he made Affidavit,—the Contents of it were writ, and he was well for ought he knew.*

*Thomas Merriman says, he is not cured,—found no Benefit from Mr Lee; but a Truss from Mr Cheselden did keep up his Rupture,—Mr Lee reported he was cured.—*

*Adjourn'd,*

Adjourn'd, 'till Monday next, and that Mr Lee may be sent to attend, if he pleases, when there will be a full Board, and will finally determine upon Matters laid before them relating to his Conduct at Chelsea.—

Mr Thomas not to certify any more Men to Mr Lee.—

At a Board held at the Hospital-Chamber, in Whitehall, on Tuesday, 27 March, 1753. Present, Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq; Lord Ilchester, Sir Robert Rich, Col. Colisley.

Mr Lee, according to Summons attended, and the Minutes of the Board, taken the 14th of March 1753, were read to him; whereby it appeared that John Tanner, William Story, Peter Curtis, John Coulson, Stephen Cowell, and Thomas Merriman, personally examined in the Presence of the Commissioners, were at that Time uncured of their Ruptures, notwithstanding they had been severally under Mr Lee's Care.

The Board then resumed the Consideration of a Narrative, which had been presented to them, 3 Feb. 1753, by John Ranby and Cæsar Hawkins, Esqrs, Serjeant-Surgeons to His Majesty; to which Narrative were annexed, Copies of Examinations, Certificates, and Declarations, relative to seventeen Pensioners, and fully proving Mr Lee's Insufficiency in the Cure of Ruptures, and the Artifices made use of by him to establish the Credit of such Cures. And Mr Lee admitted, that at the Time the same was read, he did not offer to disprove any Thing therein contained.

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Armada

The Board then ordered the Resolution to be read, which they came to on the 2d of April, 1752, which is as follows.

" That Mr *Lee* may undertake the Cure of such In-Pensioners afflicted with Ruptures, as should voluntarily put themselves under his Direction, their Cases being first certified to him by the Surgeon, or Surgeons' Deputy of the Hospital; and in Twelve Months after, the Operation of his Cures will be considered by the Board, and he will be rewarded accordingly."

The Board having taken the whole into Consideration, and *finding no Cures performed*, but many Mal-Practices carried on by Mr *Lee*, have judged him no Ways intitled to any Reward for one Year's Experiments, as above recited, and do forbid him all Attendance upon the Hospital for the future.

### P O S T S C R I P T.

On the Subject of this Dispute, Mr *Ranby* having had the Honour of representing to His Royal Highness the Duke, that a Truss, made by a good Workman, and properly applied, would enable any Soldier, troubled with a common Rupture, to perform all his Duty, and render him, to all Intents, as serviceable as another Man, and even frequently prove a Cure; His Royal Highness gave Orders, that the ruptur'd Men, in the First Regiment of Guards, should be supplied accordingly with them. The Effects of this Order, in a few Instances, Mr *Ranby* begs to lay before the Reader, as related in the following Letter to him, from Mr *Davies*, the Surgeon of that Regiment.

To Mr RANBY.

SIR,

2 Nov. 1753.

A Few Days since I examined five Men, viz. two Serjeants, and three private Men, of the First Regiment of Foot-Guards, in the Presence of Col. Dury, and some other Officers of the Regiment. They had all been ruptur'd, and were ordered to be sent to you, by His Royal Highness the Duke, about eight Month's since, when you was pleased to order each to have a well-fitt'd Steel-Truss, which was soon after apply'd by Mr Dappee. They wore them, one excepted, for four or five Month's, three having left them off for some Month's, and appear well; the other two wear them now, and on their Removal, their Ruptures do not come down, unless they use strong Motion, and then appear in the Groin not bigger than a small Chestnut.

It is to be observed, that all these Men have been perfectly Easy from the first Application of the Truss, nor have they omitted one Day's Duty on that Account. Two of these Men, who have been well for some Time, have since worked at Coal-bearing, and working on the Keys. No Remedy accompanied the Use of the Truss.

I am SIR,

Your most obedient humble Servt.

Lewis Davies,  
Surgeon to the Regiment.

